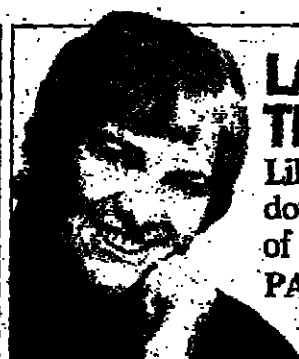




## THE NEW £40,000 GAME

See details and premium line entry  
PAGE 12



## LAMBS TO THE CLONER

Libby Purves on life down on the farm of the future  
PAGE 16



## MAJOR IS RISKING THE UNION

Roy Jenkins on the dangers of ignoring devolution  
Letters PAGE 17



## HAPPY LANDING

Film maker Johnny Gems comes home  
PAGE 15

### Tory pledge on subsidies

# Tube sell-off to raise £2bn for overhaul

By JONATHAN PRYNN AND PHILIP WEBSTER

THE London Underground is to be sold for £2 billion and the proceeds ploughed back into building a modern network fit for the 21st century, Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, will announce today.

Sir George has won key concessions from the Treasury that will allow proceeds from the privatisation to be "ring-fenced". Whoever buys the network will be "drip-fed" the sale proceeds through an annual subsidy that will have to be spent on upgrading the 255-mile system.

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, has conceded that privatisation is politically acceptable only with guarantees of investment and Sir George is said to have argued strongly for a "network for the millennium".

The sale of the Tube will be the main privatisation measure in the Tories' proposed fifth term programme. Ministers have gone cool on an outright sale of the Royal Mail, preferring instead to opt for increased "commercialisation" within the Post Office, and they have dropped a plan to privatise Channel 4.

The Government believes that the improving public image of rail privatisation has given it a window of opportunity to launch the Tube sale before the election, and today's announcement - which had been postponed three times - coincides with the sale of the final former British Rail franchise, ScotRail, to the National Express bus group in Glasgow.

Three main options will be outlined in the White Paper published by Sir George today: a "lock stock and barrel" sale of the network, a line-by-line sale, and the creation of a Railtrack-style

infrastructure authority with individual lines franchised to private operators.

Sir George is believed to favour selling a 10 or 20-year franchise for the entire network, with the Government retaining ultimate strategic control. There would also be an industry regulator to ensure that services were maintained and investment made, and a cap on fare increases.

Labour, which favours private investment in the Tube while retaining overall strategic control, said last night that the Conservative plans would "sell public assets cheap and delay investment further".

Labour spokesmen claimed that the scheme would cost thousands of votes in key Tory marginals and Glenda Jackson, the party's London Transport spokeswoman, intends to launch a campaign aimed at ten specific seats, including Enfield, Southgate, which is held by Michael Portillo, and Steven Norris's Epping Forest. "Privatisation could cost the Tories ten seats, it could cost them five seats. Either way our message to them is go ahead, make our day," Ms Jackson said.

Andrew Smith, the Shadow Transport Secretary, said that the Tories thought that, through privatisation, they could "wash their hands of the mess in which they have left London's transport system. The nightmare vision of a Tory fifth term threatens Tube services and fares for millions of Londoners, bringing more transport chaos to the capital." Ministers have been stung by the sustained criticism from London's business leaders about its underfunding of the Tube and are convinced that only the private

sector can deliver the modern, reliable network that the capital requires.

In a letter to the Prime Minister leaked earlier this month, Sir George said that privatisation proceeds would be in the range of £1.2 billion to £2 billion, and advisers believe that the top end of the range is achievable. Sir George admitted, however, that after subsidy, the net proceeds to the Exchequer could be as low as £600 million, compared with the Tube's net assets of around £7 billion.

The finances of the London Underground, whose annual revenue is nearly £800 million, have steadily improved during the 1990s and last year it made an operating profit of £197 million. However, it needs about £400 to £500 million a year in government support to maintain the system and begin to clear the backlog of modernisation and repairs. In last year's Budget its funding was reduced by £700 million over the next three years, forcing the postponement of more than 200 projects.

The decision on the Tube privatisation came as John Major called senior ministers together to "polish" the general election manifesto. Strategists have now pencilled in March 13 as the day that Mr Major will formally announce that polling day will be May 1. He would be expected to inform the Queen of his plans after a Cabinet meeting that morning and to use the Conservative central council meeting in Bath on the following two days as his election springboard. Parliament would be dissolved either just before or after Easter to allow for remaining legislation to be rushed through.

Radical programme, page 8



An outfit from the Owen Gaster collection being shown during the London Fashion Week yesterday. Elsewhere top-name models were wearing the knitted designs of Laine Keogh. Page 5

## Police hold the foster father of Billie-Jo

By EMMA WILKINS

THE foster father of Billie-Jo Jenkins was arrested yesterday by detectives investigating her murder.

Sion Jenkins, 39, a deputy headmaster, was detained overnight at Hastings police station, East Sussex. The arrest came nine days after Billie-Jo, 13, was bludgeoned to death with an 18-inch metal tent spike as she painted patio doors in the garden of her home.

A spokesman for Sussex police said last night: "A local man in his thirties has been arrested and is being held at Hastings police station in connection with the murder of Billie-Jo Jenkins."

A spokesman refused to confirm or deny that Mr Jenkins was the man helping police with their inquiries.

Mr Jenkins, who is on compassionate leave from his post at William Parker Comprehensive School for Boys in Hastings, appeared at a press conference three days after the murder with his wife Lois, 35, to appeal for information about the killing. He told the press conference that his family was "devastated" by the murder and paid tribute to his "buoyant, articulate, loud and fun-loving" foster daughter.

On the afternoon of the killing, Mr Jenkins said he was collecting his two eldest daughters, Lottie, 10, and Annie, 12, from a music lesson. It was Lottie who found the battered body of her foster sister when they returned home.

The Jenkins, who fostered Billie-Jo five years ago, became her legal guardians in December last year. The couple have two younger daughters, Esther, 9, and Maya, 7.

Mr Jenkins is the third man to be arrested in connection with the murder. A 44-year-old man from Hastings was arrested and released on bail into the care of a secure psychiatric unit last week. A 36-year-old local man was also arrested and bailed last week.

Peter Webb, the Jenkins family's immediate neighbour, said he was astonished when told of Mr Jenkins' arrest. "He's a lovely bloke and I can't believe he did it. He's a hard working, respectable professional man," he said.

## Halifax votes for a bank

The vote to convert Halifax Building Society into a bank was carried by an overwhelming majority of its members. From a total of seven million eligible investing members 5.1 million were in favour and 110,000 against. Of 2.2 million borrowing members, 1.5 million voted in favour and 40,000 against. The average share payout will be about £1,300. Page 25

## Police admission

The chief constable of the West Midlands Police admitted that at the time the Bridgewater Three were arrested it was normal for officers to interrogate suspects before they looked for evidence. Asked if interrogations "did get rough", he said: "Of course." Page 2

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## Three killed on motorway as hurricane threatens

By LIN JENKINS

THREE people died in a motorway crash as Britain braced itself for the worst gales of the winter last night. Weathermen were forecasting hurricane force winds in some parts of the south.

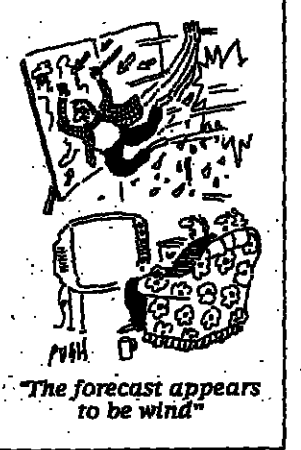
The M5 at Bristol was closed in both directions after a water tanker collided with a car, catapulting it into a van causing both to explode in flames. Avon fire service said driving conditions were atrocious.

Two people in the car and the driver of the van died. The tanker driver was last night being treated in hospital.

The Meteorological Office said the gales were the most sustained period of strong winds since the winter of 1990 which led to the greatest payout by insurance companies for storm damage - eclipsing, even, claims for the

great storm of 1987. The high winds are likely to last until the weekend.

Winds up to 80 mph were forecast for southern counties. A spokesman said: "It's all



"The forecast appears to be wind"

ways difficult to say how much damage will be done but building damage might not be quite as bad as in 1990."

A spokesman for the Association of British Insurers said it was prepared for the worst, but added: "The Met Office has been wrong before and we hope they're wrong on this occasion."

There were flood warnings in the south west from Land's End eastwards. Coastal communities were told there was the possibility of tides breaching sea defences during the night. The Environment Agency issued "red" warnings for Minehead, Weston-super-Mare and Clevedon in Somerset, and "amber" warnings of waves breaking over sea walls and beaches for north Cornwall, north Devon and the Chesil Bank area in south Dorset.

## Princess sues over dress profit report

By ALAN HAMILTON

LAWYERS acting for Diana, Princess of Wales, last night issued a libel writ against a Sunday newspaper over allegations that she would personally profit from the impending auction of nearly 100 of her evening dresses.

The step is unprecedented for the Princess. She has never sued for libel, although in 1993 she sued for breach of confidence over secretly-taken photographs of herself in a London gym, and last year brought an action for harassment against a freelance photographer. If the libel action came to court it could involve her appearing in the witness box.

Libel cases are rarely brought by the Royal Family, for that very reason. The last by a senior royal was in 1910, when the future King George V brought a successful criminal libel action against a

journalist who published a story alleging that the then Prince of Wales had secretly married in Malta, inferring that he had committed bigamy with Princess Mary. In 1990 Viscount Linley won £35,000 damages from *Today* after it alleged he had been banned from a Chelsea pub for throwing beer over other drinkers.

Anthony Julius, the Princess's solicitor, said last night that she was suing Express Newspapers and Richard Adis, Editor of the *Express On Sunday*, over a front-page story at the weekend suggesting that up to half the proceeds from the June sale, which could make up to £4 million, would go to the Princess and only half to charity.

Yesterday the Princess's office strenuously denied the

Continued on page 2, col 5

## Spies who go into the red lose security clearance

By MICHAEL EVANS  
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

SOME of Britain's spies have had their security clearance withdrawn because they have gone chronically into the red.

The parliamentary Intelligence and Security Committee, chaired by Tom King, the former Defence Secretary, yesterday issued a warning about the dangers of spies in financial trouble.

The committee's annual report said they could be targeted by Russian agents bearing cash.

The committee which provides parliamentary oversight of MI6, the Secret Intelligence Service; MI5, the Security Service; and GCHQ, the government communications headquarters in Cheltenham, said Britain was under a continuing threat from the activities of Russian intelligence services. "This threat exists in a

climate when personal, financial or career problems can easily develop into security problems if not recognised and addressed at an early stage," the report said.

The heads of the three agencies, Sir David Spedding, Chief of MI6; Stephen Lander, Director-General of MI5; and David Omand, Director of GCHQ, had each told the committee that "financial problems or chronic indebtedness" had been the main

reason behind the withdrawal of vetting clearance "from contractors and, in some cases, serving members of staff".

The committee said: "Signs that individuals are greatly overspending their income, without any visible external means, should be of similar concern."

The committee added that it was "money, rather than ideology" that

Continued on page 2, col 1

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مكذبا من رلاصل



# Send in the clones for a Stepford Parliament

A TORY whip walked in during Questions yesterday and stared for a moment at the loyal Jacques Arnold (C, Gravesham), who talks like a speak-your-weight machine. There was something chilling in the stare. Might the Whips' Office be contemplating cloning? 650 Identically loyal Tory candidates with gravelly voices for the election? It should be possible: the biological make-up of an obedient Tory is less complex than that of a sheep.

But as I watched Michael Heseltine on one of his good-hair days, a better plan occurred. The Deputy Prime Minister, on hand for Questions, had swept back his mane in an ashy-blond helmet. Were a bus ever to run him down, it

would be a tragedy to consign to the coffin a hairdo upon which so much has been lavished. Why waste it? Corneas, removed from the eyes of the late Deng Xiaoping, are to be given to medical science for transplant. Might Hezza donate his scalp to medical science, for use on thinning Tony Blair?

Hezza was tackled noisily, yesterday, by Labour's Deputy Leader, John Prescott. What a mouth will be lost to us when Mr Prescott departs this life! Could Prezza's mouth not be preserved, for use by a successor politician less orally endowed?

Plus Tony Banks's tongue. A thinking man's barrow boy, the sharp-tongued Labour MP for



MATTHEW PARRIS  
POLITICAL SKETCH

Newham, NW was on his feet to accuse the Tories of accepting stolen money from Asil Nadir. The Conservative party was "funded by foreign crooks and foreign fascists", he rapped. Dennis Skinner (Lab, Bolsover) growled angrily away ("yer can ave these sort of fancy Tory gimmicks") Skinner's spleen must be kept for posterity, too.

Alongside Tony Jessell's lungs. The MP (C) for Twickenham warmed up yesterday with a little rant, about the "Common Market",

at the courteous and likeable Liam Fox. Jessell's lungs driven by Skinner's spleen; Banks's tongue in Prescott's mouth armed with Tony Blair's teeth framed by Michael Portillo's lips and maned with Heseltine's hair... the combination would be awesome: we are looking at a truly spectacular politician. Which bit of Paddy Ashdown might be tacked on to our identikit MP, modestly forbids us to propose; here (what with Steven Norris) we shall be spoilt for choice.

Tony Banks was back on his feet with a complaint for Michael Alison, answering for the Church Commissioners. Why was the Anglican Church driving away traditional Christians with its "happy-clappy" forms of worship, he asked? "They go for the hand of God to be laid upon them from above, not to be felt up by someone in the adjacent pew."

Then a miracle occurred. The mournful Mr Alison made a joke. He accused his tormentor, Banks, of being unfit ("alasse") to lead a traditionalist service for Banks was "shouty-louty", rather than "happy-clappy".

Up rose a quivering Sir Patrick Cormack (C, Staffs S) - huffy-puffy

and hoity-toity - to reproach the saintly Mr Alison, more hoity-poly than roly-poly and for whom the term "rumpy-pumpy" was never less apt.

Arty-farty Michael Fabricant (C, Mid-Staffs) wanted Mr Alison to know that at Lichfield Cathedral he had attended a service for girl guides. The MP spoiled our reveries of him in blue skirt and cap by adding, hastily, that he had not attended as a girl guide.

And the House moved to debate, in Opposition time, the Health Service crisis. Crisis? By 5.30, discounting those who had to attend ex officio, there were four Tories present, seven Labour MPs and a Liberal Democrat.

## Disposal of BSE cattle 'will take 13 years'

The disposal of more than a million cattle slaughtered because of BSE will take another 13 years under current arrangements, Labour said yesterday. Government incompetence meant some cattle remains would have to be stored until 2010 unless the process was accelerated.

John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, called for a public inquiry into the disposal programme. He unveiled a map showing the sites where remains are being stored and where carcasses could be rendered if further contracts were signed. Every community would be affected by "the legacy of this incompetence and mismanagement".

**Millennium man**  
Eric Sorensen, the head of the London Docklands Development Corporation, is to be the new chief executive of the Millennium Commission. He will take over next month from Jennifer Page, who left last month to oversee the Millennium Exhibition at Greenwich.

**Betts case rerun**  
A teenager has gone on trial for the second time accused of being involved in supplying Ecstasy to Leah Betts, who died at her 18th birthday party. Steven Packman, 19, of Laindon, Essex, was the first link in the supply chain, Norwich Crown Court was told. He denies the charge.

**Welcome return**  
Victor Read, 32, from Cornwall, the scientist kidnapped in Ecuador's rainforest, yesterday ate his first hearty meal after a week of eating fried ants and manioc, and is resting on a comfortable bed after nights on mats in a bamboo hut, a British Embassy official said.

**Food poison clue**  
A private water supply contaminated with animal waste is being investigated as a source of an E. coli food poisoning outbreak in the Scottish Borders. Two more people have the infection taking the total to six. They were among guests at a Burns Supper at Robertson village hall.

**Miner trapped**  
A miner was trapped last night after a rock fall 1½ miles inside a drift mine. Four colleagues were rescued and taken to hospital after the accident at the Castle mine, near Blean, Kent. The Mines Rescue Service was working to free the miner.

**Steele chassis**  
Tommy Steele's black 1955 Morris Minor convertible with 45,000 miles on the clock was sold for £4,140 in a Brooks car auction at Olympia, west London. The car had had three owners from new. A 1959 Ferrari Superamerica was sold for £96,100 to an American.

**Hawaii alive-o**  
The American police series Hawaii Five-O, last screened in Britain in 1991, is to be revived. Jack Lord, who played the detective Steve McGarrett in the original series and now lives in residence in Hawaii, is believed to have been offered a cameo role in the new series.

## Bridgewater focus turns to police Police ethics were unknown in 70s, says police chief

By Carol Midgley

THE Chief Constable of the West Midlands force admitted yesterday that at the time the Bridgewater Three were arrested it was normal for officers to interrogate suspects before they looked for evidence.

Edward Crew said: "Back in the 1970s we would arrest somebody, we would interrogate them, and then we might bother to look for other evidence if they didn't admit it."

Mr Crew, who was at the time serving as an officer in the Metropolitan Force, was asked if the interrogations could ever get rough. He replied: "Of course they

could." He went on: "Even in those days there was never, ever an expectation that police officers would break the law - the substantial change has come about in the culture in which we work."

He said that as an officer working then he could not recall "words like ethics and ethical behaviour" being used in the police. "They weren't actually important to us. We can't go on like that and quite simply we have moved away from that, from those sorts of ways of doing business."

"I have to say that if the penalty we pay is that guilty people walk away and don't

get convicted, and I suspect there are many of those, that is a price worth paying. There is never any circumstances, and I have never believed there have been, in which one can justify locking up an innocent person."

Mr Crew said that although the new safeguards against miscarriages of justice made it far harder for people to be wrongly convicted he could not ensure that it would not ever happen again.

He said he was sure that the vast majority of his officers were "honourable people" but said that if any of his officers had committed a criminal offence during the Carl Bridgewater case they would be brought before the courts.

"We have a justice system and it applies to everybody the same. I would simply give you a guarantee that where there is evidence of a police officer's misbehaviour to a criminal level it will be pursued and people will be put before the courts. I guarantee that there will be no whitewash."

He gave warning that any criminal behaviour by police officers or civilian support staff "is wholly unacceptable and will never be tolerated", adding that "the end can never justify the means". Mr Crew said he did not wish to say anything "which might affect the likelihood of those who are responsible for misbehaving in this case being brought before the courts if there is evidence against them."

Michael Hickey, Vincent Hickey and James Robinson were released on bail on Friday pending a full appeal hearing on April 8, after the High Court heard that evidence used during the 1979 murder trial had been fabricated by police officers.

## Former detective denies forgery

A FORMER police officer who may face criminal charges over fabricated evidence in the Carl Bridgewater murder inquiry spoke out for the first time yesterday to proclaim his innocence (Carol Midgley writes).

Graham Leake, a retired detective constable, issued a statement denying he had acted improperly and asserting that any charges would be defended.

Mr Leake, now a security guard in the Midlands, was named in the Court of Appeal hearing on Friday as one of two police officers allegedly involved in the forging of a confession by one of the Bridgewater Three, Vince Hickey. But David Twigg, representing the Police Federation, said he did not believe there was any evidence to support charges against Mr

Leake or others. In the statement he said: "We wish to make it plain both on behalf of Mr Leake and other officers whom we represent that our clients deny any improper practice in relation to the investigation of the murder of Carl Bridgewater."

He added: "The decision of the Crown not to oppose the current appeal by the convicted men appears to have been triggered by the reported results of a forensic examination of the written confession of Patrick Molloy, which are said to support an allegation that this confession was induced by the use of a forged statement of admission by Vincent Hickey."

"We are not as satisfied as the Crown appear to be that these reported forensic results lead to this irresistible inference."



Michael Howard and his wife, Sandra, who is said to be deeply upset

## Howard's wife denies call for cut in prisoners' food

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

THE Home Secretary's wife was yesterday embroiled in a dispute with the former director-general of prisons over allegations that she wanted cuts in the nutritional content of prison food.

Sandra Howard demanded an apology from Derek Lewis, two newspapers and Granada Television, which broadcast the claim last night.

Mrs Howard is said to be deeply upset at the accusations. John Turnbull, her solicitor, said: "She is a great deal more liberal than this picture of her suggests. She is upset. She is angry at having

this dumped on her head."

Mr Turnbull, of the City firm Linklaters and Paines, said he had written to *World in Action*, where the allegation was made, *The Observer* and *The Sunday Times*. Penguin Books and Mr Lewis seeking an apology and retraction. He said he had been instructed to tell them that she had never held or expressed any of those views attributed to her.

"She never said or suggested that any actual or proposed nutritional standards at Her Majesty's Prisons were too generous," Mr Turnbull said.

Mr Lewis, sacked as director-general of the Prison Service by Mr Howard, has told *World in Action* that he was taken aside by Mr Howard's then aide, David Cameron, and told that Mrs Howard believed that "the prison code's requirements to provide a balanced and nutritious diet was somehow too generous for prisoners".

In his book, *Hidden Agenda*, Mr Lewis says he was told that Mrs Howard thought that the code's prescription of a balanced nutritious diet was "giving today's offenders much more than they deserved".

## Minister retreats on jury trial curbs

By Philip Webster and Frances Gibb

MICHAEL HOWARD is expected to revise his plan to curb the right to jury trials amid reservations from the Prime Minister and other senior members of the Government.

The Home Secretary is likely to tone down his original proposals to remove jury trial for thousands of defendants when he announces a range of measures shortly to speed up the criminal justice system. Mr Major is understood to be worried that such a move, which would be deeply controversial with the judiciary and many Conservative MPs, would overshadow Mr Howard's other proposals to break the logjam in the court system. These are expected to be more popular with the electorate and some are likely to feature in the election manifesto.

When it emerged last week that Mr Howard was likely to support the curtailment of jury trials for theft, deception, actual or grievous bodily harm and handling stolen goods Alastair Goodlad, the chief whip, and Brian Mawhinney, the Conservative chairman, intervened to warn him of a backlash from Tory MPs.

The Home Secretary is now expected to put the idea out to consultation although he will probably express his sympathy towards the idea. The proposals to remove the right to elect jury trial - the centrepiece of a Home Office report - will refuse the battle between the Government and the judiciary.

Senior judges would have serious reservations about removing a defendant's right to trial by jury in an estimated 35,000 cases a year. They are also expected to oppose other proposals in the report, particularly the suggestion that a Crown Prosecution Service lawyer should be placed in each police station.

Video interviews, page 5  
Law Report, page 35

## Spies in the red to lose clearance

Continued from page 1

was the principal motivation of people betraying their countries. Members of M16, M15 and GCHQ are paid at Civil Service rates.

M16 officers who have their clearance withdrawn have to leave the service because "all, or virtually all, M16 staff have to be vetted," a security source said. The committee said personal problems might not be apparent when an agent starts. "Hence the continuing importance of effective application of security procedures, such as frequent and, at times, random vetting reviews," the report said.

The defences against Russian attempts to penetrate the British intelligence services were "not as strong as they should be", the report said. It called for investigations into individuals' bank balances and "physical searches" of staff entering and leaving agency buildings.

The committee report was published in the light of the Aldrich Ames case in the United States. The former senior CIA officer pocketed £1.5 million from the Russians in return for betraying American secrets on a vast scale. Nine CIA agents were executed because of his betrayal, and Mr King said yesterday that

the latest information indicated that several others may also have been killed. The report concluded, however, that damage to Britain's security arising from the Ames case was not serious.

Mr King insisted at a Cabinet Office press conference that there was "absolutely no evidence" of an Ames-style traitor operating in any of the British agencies. However, the report quoted the words of John Deutch, the former head of the CIA, who said: "There is only one thing worse than finding a spy in your organisation and that is not finding a spy in your organisation."

## Princess sues for libel

Continued from page 1

report. Fashion experts expect the sale of her dresses to make at least £4 million. Rumours, emanating from America, that she would split the proceeds between herself and her charities, were ridiculed by her staff, who pointed out that under the terms of her divorce the Princess is barred from any commercial undertaking that would benefit her financially. They said she would even be paying her own fare to

New York to publicise the auction at a fundraising dinner.

Proceeds from the sale are to be divided between two of her remaining charities, the Royal Marsden Hospital in west London, a leading cancer institution of which she is president, and the AIDS Crisis Trust, of which she is patron.

There will not have been an auction like it since Sotheby's sold the Duchess of Windsor's jewels in Geneva. Today their

arch-rival, Christie's, will parade details of nearly 100 evening dresses which they will auction in New York on June 26.

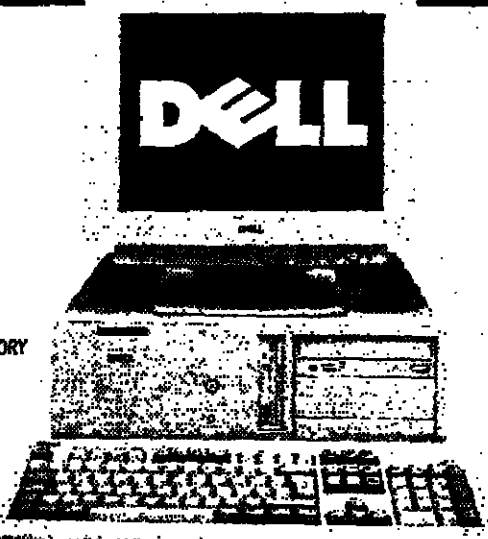
The dresses going to auction are far from being the Princess's entire evening wardrobe. After nearly 16 years on the public stage, she is thought to have amassed many hundreds of formal evening outfits, some paid for by the Duchy of Cornwall, some given free by designers.

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# Superman actor to return in remake of Hitchcock classic

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

CHRISTOPHER REEVE, the Superman actor paralysed in a horseriding accident two years ago, is to make his screen comeback in a remake of *Rear Window*, the Hitchcock thriller about a wheelchair-bound photographer.

Reeve has agreed to take the role played by James Stewart in the 1954 film, which tells the story of the news photographer who, confined to his room after breaking his leg in a car crash, sees a murder in a neighbouring flat.

The original film co-starred Grace Kelly as Stewart's girlfriend. The new film will closely follow the original plot. Instead of a girlfriend, however, Reeve will have a male medical assistant. That role has not yet been filled.

It will be Reeve's first major role since the accident that left him paralysed from the neck down. He has become a staunch disabled rights campaigner and last year made his directorial debut with *In the Gloaming*, a film about a young man with AIDS who returns home to die. The film stars Glenn Close, Whoopi Goldberg and Bridget Fonda.



Reeve: film marks his return to a major role

Reeve made a brief appearance last year in an American television film, *A Step Toward Tomorrow*, in which he played a quadriplegic who tries to bring comfort to a paralysed boy and his mother.

The *Rear Window* remake will try to recapture the claustrophobia of the original, with the plot unfolding from the vantage point of the man in the wheelchair. The new version will try to make the

most of technology now available to people with disabilities, such as voice-activated lighting, telephones, window blinds and cameras.

Robert Gaulin, a New York entertainment lawyer who offered Reeve the part, said that the actor was keen to do it. "He has turned down everything else just to do this project. It is perfect for him. As long as he is well enough to do it, it will get done," Mr Gaulin said that the film would be shot this autumn or next year, depending on Reeve's health.

Mr Gaulin is working on the remake with Sheldon Abend, the literary agent who owns the remake and sequel rights to *Rear Window*. The pair have promised to donate 5 per cent of the proceeds of the film to spinal cord research or a charity of Reeve's choosing.

John Michael Hayes, who wrote the original film script, has also expressed an interest in writing a new script. The remake rights to *Rear Window* were the subject to a lengthy legal battle, which culminated in a US Supreme Court ruling in 1990.

The short story, *It Had To Be Murder*, by Cornell Woolrich, on which *Rear Window* was based, was first published in *Dime Detective Magazine* in 1942. Woolrich sold the film rights in 1945 and Mr Abend bought them for \$650 in 1971. When the film was re-released in 1983, Mr Abend sued MCA, its distributors. Hitchcock's heirs and Stewart (a trustee of the Hitchcock estate), demanding a share in the \$12 million profits.

His victory established the "Abend Rule" to guarantee that authors or their heirs can profit from their works if their value has soared during the course of their 28-year copyright renewal term.



Grace Kelly and James Stewart get claustrophobic in Hitchcock's gripping 1954 classic *Rear Window*

## Man found at low tide in Thailand 'murdered'

BY ANDREW DRUMMOND AND STEPHEN FARRELL

A BRITISH tourist found with weights tied to his feet off a pier in a remote fishing village in Thailand could have been the victim of a Thai mafia killing, police said.

The officer leading the investigation into the death of Geoffrey Chapman, who was found at low tide in Sriracha, 100 miles southeast of Bangkok, is treating it as suicide. But police in the nearby beach resort of Pattaya said it appeared to be murder. One officer said: "When the mafia want to make a point, they make sure the body is found."

Mr Chapman, 54, a pylon erector from Scarborough, North Yorkshire, was found on Sunday. One report said he was attached to the balcony of a fisheries building with one rope round his neck and another round his waist. His ankles were tied to a rock.

Peter Chapman, Mr Chapman's older brother, said last night that the family had been told he was murdered. He said his brother, who is estranged from his wife and has two grown-up children, regularly travelled to Thailand on his own during long breaks from working in Germany.

## Church helps to pay for vicar's drink treatment

BY JOANNA BALE

A PAROCHIAL church council is to pay £2,500 towards the cost of sending its vicar to a clinic that deals with alcohol dependence. The Rev Edward Coombes of St Bartholomew's Church, Edgbaston, Birmingham, spent two and a half weeks in the private Woodbourne Clinic in the city. His treatment cost £8,000.

Mr Coombes, 57, said last night: "I just woke up one morning and decided that I needed treatment at the clinic. I have visited patients there before, but decided that I needed help."

"The generosity of the PCC is a marvellous story. I paid the rest myself. The dedication of the doctors was wonderful," Lee Reed, director of the 45-bed psychiatric hospital, said the vicar would have been at the Manor Clinic, which specialises in addictions. He said: "I cannot comment on particular cases but we do have an addictions unit which deals primarily with alcohol and drug addicts."

"We use a 12-step programme which involves a mixture of group, individual and family counselling. We deal with people with all kinds of psychiatric disorders, in-

cluding depression and eating disorders, but anyone seeking treatment here must have been referred to us by their GP or by another medically qualified consultant."

Joe Heaton, the church warden, said that Mr Coombes admitted himself as a patient in July and resumed his duties after being discharged. He said: "On hearing of Mr Coombes' admission to Woodbourne, the parochial church council immediately expressed its confidence and goodwill towards him, agreeing that it would meet up to 50 per cent of the costs arising from his treatment."

"They agreed that this money would come from a reserve account containing, among other funds, money from various bequests intended for the benefits of the church and the clergy."

"This is an entirely separate account from the main operating account which contains money given in the church collection."

"This was a gesture on our part. Mr Coombes at no time came to us asking for any money. He has now resumed his duties and seems to be fully recovered."

## The sticky question is: are biscuits birds of a feather?

BY DANIEL MCGRODY

CONFUSED shoppers explained to a judge yesterday how they mistakenly purchased a Puffin when scouring their supermarkets to pick up a Penguin.

United Biscuits, which sells £35 million worth of Penguins a year, has accused Asda of trying to usurp its bestselling brand with a blatant imitation called a Puffin.

United Biscuits, which launched Penguins more than 60 years ago, is suing the supermarket chain for trademark infringement after it launched its Puffin brand last year. Both depict cartoon characters of a seabird on their wrappers and are roughly the same size, which United Biscuits says is intended to lure its loyal shoppers astray.

Deborah Smith told the High Court how when her



Rivals in a market worth millions of pounds

husband espied a Puffin in Asda he called it "a rip off." "I said it must be United Biscuits making it for Asda. It seemed so blatant it was a Penguin in disguise."

Pauline Bennett explained her confusion to the court. "Both are water birds. Both begin with P and end in N." "What about pigeon," she was asked by Gordon Pollock, QC, for Asda. "That does not hang around water," she replied.

Jamie Wilson, who works for United Biscuits, said he was among those who an-

swered an e-mail request on the Internet from his company's trademark department asking for anyone who was confused by the brands.

He was shopping with his mother Muriel who mistakenly selected a Puffin. "I assumed it was our own-label brand and I thought it a bit silly to produce something as similar as one of our premier brands," he said.

Michael Bloch for United Biscuits said: "To an orthologist there may be a clear distinction between a puffin and a penguin. The question is not whether a careful and perspicacious purchaser would be misled. One takes one's customers as one finds them and that includes people who are in a hurry, people who are old or very young. The principal complaint is that people will believe Puffin is manufactured by the plaintiff." The case continues.



The Spice Girls ruled the Brit Awards at rehearsals yesterday. The group, who made their musical debut less than a year ago, won nominations in five categories of the annual awards presented at London's Earls Court last night

## 'Bent copper' is jailed for £2m cannabis plot

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A CONSTABLE in the Metropolitan Police was jailed for ten years yesterday for his part in a £2 million plot to smuggle cannabis into Britain. Ronald Palumbo, 31, from Chingford in Essex, was one of four men sentenced at Canterbury Crown Court.

Judge Rooke, QC, told Palumbo: "With your police service, you should have known better. In fact, you are what's known as a 'bent copper' in an otherwise honourable force."

Kenneth Harris, 43, of Welling, southeast London, the leader of the group and father-in-law of Palumbo, was jailed for 12 years. David Ng, 37, of Winchester Road, London, for ten years, and John Illingworth, 39, of Greenwich, southeast London, for nine years.

The 15-day trial had been told that a large quantity of cannabis with a street value of more than £2 million had been found expertly concealed in a trailer of a lorry owned by Harris. The lorry was stopped at Dover Eastern Docks in November 1995.

James Vine, for the prosecution, said: "Four trips had been made by this lorry and trailer during the latter half of 1995 and Harris was the organiser of the whole enterprise." Palumbo travelled out on all four trips, usually returning by air. On the first of the trips Palumbo went in the cab of the lorry being

driven by Ng. On the second Palumbo and Harris flew from London to Spain, returning two days later.

"On the third trip Palumbo again flew out of London with Harris, again staying in Spain for two days, and on the fourth and final trip Palumbo flew to Spain with Ng. Illingworth was the driver on the final three trips."

Illingworth and Ng had said they had no idea drugs were involved. Palumbo, who had joined the police force in 1986, was posted to Stoke Newington Police Station and transferred to Lime House Police Station in about 1992.

In June 1992, he was suspended after allegations of corruption were made into his arrest of a crack cocaine dealer. In November 1995 he was acquitted.

Palumbo had told the court that during the suspension from 1992 to 1995 he had been under pressure and was on medication because of the impending proceedings and was asked by Harris to go on the trips to Spain so he could get away from it all. "I have been used by Harris. I had nothing to do with the drugs. If I had known about the drugs I would have told someone," he said.

A Customs spokesman said after the case: "We have received full co-operation from the Met. There is no suggestion of other police officers being involved."

## Sir Norman Foster's masterpiece in steel

Not for the first time, Sir Norman Foster examines the familiar stainless steel Rolex GMT-Master on his wrist.

"I would say it is a design classic," he says, then continues by explaining that he admires how functional it is, how simply and directly it communicates information to him, and how he uses its rotatable bezel to check way-points when he is piloting his helicopter.

For Sir Norman Foster, good design is generated by people's needs. He has answered these needs with outstanding architectural solutions in his native England, throughout Europe, and - most notably - in Hong Kong.

It was Foster's design for the headquarters of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank that confirmed his position at the forefront of international architecture.

This supremely elegant building epitomises many of Foster's beliefs as an architect.

The interior is extraordinarily light and airy. This is achieved by a breath-taking complex of steel supports which leave vast uncluttered spaces for the people who work there, and by a unique 'sunscope' which follows the progress of the sun and funnels light down into the atrium.

Then there is Foster's legendary attention to detail. He has enormous concern for the way in which things are put together and immense respect for the materials he uses.

As one architectural reviewer has commented: "Foster takes engineering materials and treats them like jewellery."

Is it any surprise that he should wear a Rolex?

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# Silenced Mrs Blair stars in Wirral test run for election

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

CHERIE BLAIR sparked yesterday in the role of party leader's wife when she joined her husband in Wirral South in a dress rehearsal for the general election. But it was a starring part with no lines.

Mrs Blair shook hands enthusiastically and was, in turns, sympathetic, concerned, inquiring and even flirtatious as she met doctors, nurses and patients on a tour of Arrowe Park Hospital in Upton, Merseyside.

The Labour Party eased her on to the electoral stage in a tightly managed attempt to woo voters before Thursday's poll and to counter the threat posed by Norma Major, the Prime Minister's vaunted "secret weapon".

With spin doctors at her shoulder, Mrs Blair was not allowed to fluff her lines on her first big day on the stump. She did not have any. To counter unwelcome comparisons with Hillary Clinton and jibes that she is behaving like

## WIRRAL SOUTH

1992 general election: Barry Porter (C, 25,590); Helen Southworth (Lab, 17,407); Ed Cuniffe (LD, 6,581). Majority: 8,183.

a First Lady. Mrs Blair will not speak directly to the press, give interviews or make speeches during the general election campaign to come.

Instead Mrs Blair, who as Cherie Booth, QC, earns a six-figure salary, will join her husband "whenever her work commitments allow", where she will look good on his arm and carry on shaking hands and chatting while he peels off to deliver the sound-bite interviews. "She has seen what has happened to other politician's spouses," one aide said.

Arrowe Park, a bustling NHS hospital with 1,271 beds, was a carefully chosen venue for the kind of role she will be playing in the weeks to come. A caravan of party officials

and minders following Mr and Mrs Blair round the wards ensured that she was not questioned directly or ambushed by pressmen.

The visit was masterminded by Alastair Campbell, Mr Blair's chief press secretary, and his wife, Fiona Millar, Mrs Blair's press adviser. As soon as Mrs Blair spotted a notebook or camera she turned on her heels.

The Labour leader said: "She will be out with me at times during the general election campaign but it does not alter, in any way, the position she has taken. We are in politics — if you don't like the heat, you do not come into the kitchen. She has her own career and she is very happy with that. I am delighted to have her here."

In a reference to the photograph published last week of Mrs Blair caught off guard in a voluminous woollen jersey, he added: "I apologise for that jumper but I liked it."

It was Mr Blair's third visit to the Wirral South constitu-

ency. Yesterday he concentrated on the NHS, reflecting the concerns of voters in a recent opinion poll. His message was that there is a growing crisis in Wirral's hospitals with 6,000 patients on waiting lists and one in four patients waiting at least six months for treatment.

But Mrs Blair was steering clear of controversy. At one

point she turned to a porter wearing a T-shirt with the words, "Portering services, Wirral Hospital" and told him flirtatiously: "You look handsome." "What, in a T-shirt?" a bemused Peter Wilson replied.

While her husband was giving interviews, Mrs Blair sped off towards the hospital's league of friends shop, where

she asked pensioner volunteers about their work behind the sweet counter. Evelyn Baxter, one of the 101 volunteers, said afterwards: "She was very pleasant, not at all uppity. Some of these people are I relate to people as they are and she was very interested in what was going on."

In the playground of a children's ward, the Blairs presen-

ted a gift of a toddler's activity table. "Who's that touching my bottom?" asked Mrs Blair as she squatted to talk to one little girl playing with a toy car. The culprit was four-year-old Lee Abbot, who was pushing past the Labour leader's wife to get to the toy sweet shop. "It brings back memories for us," Mr Blair said.

Janet Hignett, 40, a secre-

tary, was told her red and yellow badge supporting Ben Chapman, Labour's candidate, was pretty. Meeting Mrs Blair was a bonus. "She is lovely," she said.

Aides made it clear that Mrs Blair had specially requested to accompany her husband. It gave her a chance to visit relatives on Merseyside, where she grew up.



Tony and Cherie Blair at Arrowe Park Hospital in Upton, Merseyside, yesterday on their visit to the Wirral South by-election campaign

## Big rise in agency staff 'cuts quality of hospital care'

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

MOONLIGHTING doctors and nurses are increasingly being used to fill the gap left by staff shortages in NHS hospitals and to save money, medical organisations said yesterday.

New figures show that average spending by acute hospitals on agency staff rose 63 per cent in 1993-96 while total spending on all staff rose 10 per cent. The average acute hospital now spends £13 million a year, on agency staff compared with £80,000 three years ago. Many of the agency staff are junior doctors and nurses with permanent jobs who work in their spare time to make ends meet.

The figures, set out in the *Financial Review of NHS Trusts* published yesterday, show that Walsall Hospitals NHS Trust increased its spending on agency staff by 200 per cent in 1993-96 compared with a 24 per cent increase in total staff costs.

The United Bristol Healthcare NHS Trust recorded a 105 per cent increase in agency staff costs compared with a 16 per cent rise in total spending on staff. King's Healthcare NHS Trust in London increased its agency staff bill by 30 per cent while the total

staff bill rose 42 per cent. John Spiers, chairman of the Patients' Association said: "This is a disturbing trend. Moonlighting staff equals half-cared-for patients. What we want is proper staffing in the NHS by up-to-date people with high morale and committed to their employer."

The Royal College of Nursing said the trend reflected the shortage of nurses. "Agency nurses should be used to fill gaps when staff are sick or on holiday. Now they are being used to fill permanent contracts. We are concerned because they should not be seen as a replacement for properly staffed wards."

Jan Baum of the Nightingale Nursing Bureau, a nurse employment agency, and chair of the Nursing Managers Forum at the Royal College of Nursing, said that commercial agencies could not meet the demand for nurses from NHS trusts. "We used to be the emergency service but now whole wards are staffed by temporary nurses. NHS trusts are spending a fortune trying to recruit staff. The Government won't accept that there is a general shortage of nurses. It has got to be bad for patients."

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## Home Office overcomes lawyers' doubts

## Juries to see police videos of suspects' interviews

By RICHARD FORD AND FRANCES GIBB

VIDEOTAPES of police interviewing suspects are to be played in courts under government plans to provide greater protection for both the police and alleged criminals. The Home Office has overcome doubts within the Crown Prosecution Service and the Lord Chancellor's Department over using the tapes.

A pilot project will be doubled to involve at least eight forces. At present interviews are videotaped in some parts of Kent, the Metropolitan area, West Mercia and the West Midlands.

With costs of setting up the equipment nationally estimated at more than £100 million, it is likely to be years before routine videotaping of suspects under questioning is introduced to the 43 forces in England and Wales. The wider pilot project will take at least two years to complete and evaluate.

David Maclean, a minister at the Home Office, said that successful trials had also been carried out in Scotland. "It's only shown in court in those

cases where it adds some extra value. It's not done routinely.

"It's an extra safeguard for suspects, they find in Scotland. It's an extra safeguard for police officers as well. So I think it's a technology whose time has come."

Detective Chief Superintendent Peter Wilson, head of Lothian and Borders CID, said that the force had video cameras in 26 police stations and filmed 7,000 interviews a year. Only rarely were videos shown in court. That decision was taken by the Procurator Fiscal.

"In one case we had a suspect being asked about his denial of involvement in an incident. The police officer sits back and then you see the suspect wipe a tear from his eye, lay his head on the desk. He is crying. That can all be shown as evidence," he said.

The proposal was backed by the Labour Party, lawyers and the Association of Chief Police Officers. David Phillips, Chief Constable of Kent, said: "What is really important to a jury is to see wherever pos-

sible what really happened, rather than simply to have police officers' recollections."

Lawyers welcomed the scheme in the light of the growing use by police of confession evidence. Roger Ede, secretary of the Law Society's criminal law committee, said that the society, which represents 65,000 solicitors in England and Wales, was in favour of videotaping.

"We think the jury should have a complete picture of what takes place during an interview, although to achieve that it is essential that everyone in the interview room — including the suspect's lawyer and the second police officer — are also recorded," he said.

England and Wales were among the few places where people could still be convicted on the basis of uncorroborated confessions, he added. The use of confession evidence was on the increase.

"A senior police officer said recently that confessions were back in vogue as the principal means of obtaining evidence. So that brings even more into

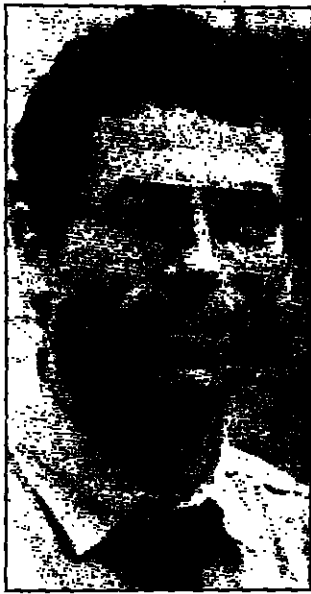
focus what happens in the interview room," Mr Ede said.

But some defence lawyers expressed concern. Jim Nicholl, solicitor for the Bridgewater Three, said that he was worried that the video would be used to show the body language of a defendant under questioning.

"I find that really quite disturbing," he said. "Quite often police officers will have a young suspect and say 'Oh, you think that's funny do you, why are you smiling?' Now really the young suspect is smiling because they're quite frightened and you get a nervous smile."

"What the suspect would be faced with is a very experienced police officer who would have worked out all the body-language questions in an attempt to implicate the suspect and a suspect who was very frightened with a solicitor or not with a solicitor. It would be quite wrong for those videos to be shown before a jury."

Law, page 35



## Sex-swap GP makes debut at surgery as woman

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

A FAMILY doctor who is to change sex held his first surgery dressed as a woman yesterday. Before his return to work, wearing a dark skirt-suit and orange blouse, Dr John Browne spoke of the distress caused to his wife and five children by his desire to become a woman.

The GP, who wrote to 15,000 patients asking them to call him Joanna, said: "The fact that this conflict existed was the cause of enormous upset for Shirley for the last five years." Mrs Browne has said that she feels like she has been bereaved.

Dr Browne, 46, said: "I was first aware I did not fit in when I was four, and I was referred to a specialist when I was 17. I sought consciously to emphasise my macho side because I thought it would make all the internal difficulties go away. This was why I took up male-oriented pursuits like rock-climbing, sports and building, to demonstrate to myself that the problem had gone away."

"Clearly that process included getting married and having children. Inevitably, the internal conflicts had not gone away. Increasingly, as the years went by, this was evident to myself and my wife. Our paths diverged and we realised the only way to resolve this conflict was to recognise that my female side was in conflict with the male side. The resolution was to change the male side."

Three years ago Dr Browne left the family home and moved a mile away. His wife lives with their children, aged 6 to 19. "I have a very high regard for Shirley and very great respect that she continues to be a mother of our children, and is successful as a full-time school teacher," he said.

"We remain supportive of



Dr Browne in his surgery yesterday and, top left, as he was before he asked to be known as Joanna

each other and good friends, which is important for the children. My greatest regret in all of this process is that it is a source of stress and upset for the children."

Dr Browne said he would continue to practise at St Bartholomew's medical centre, Oxford, because he owed it to his patients. Doctors of them had sent letters of support. "If they thought of me as caring and capable in the past, then one's physical appearance makes not the slightest difference to how the brain works," he said.

David Kenny, 40, a patient, said yesterday: "I'm not going

to let this change bother me. I thought I had problems but they're nothing compared with what he must have gone through. He's a good doctor and that's not going to change."

Dr Browne, who has been taking female hormones for two years, will have a £9,000 sex change operation, at his own expense, next month. He said: "I talk about John in the past. A person's appearance makes a fundamental difference to how one thinks of oneself. I will feel completely different about myself when I am in the correct body and have the correct appearance."

## Catwalk queens turn out for Irish unknown

By GRACE BRADBERRY  
STYLE EDITOR

NAOMI CAMPBELL and Helena Christensen led a roll call of top-name models appearing in the catwalk show of a little-known Irish designer on the second day of London Fashion Week.

On Sunday, Vivienne Westwood used unknown schoolgirls in her show, and the Italian designer Miuccia Prada's only supermodel was Stella Tennant. But the cast of Laine's show yesterday amounted to a who's who of the catwalk: Honor Fraser, Jodie Kidd, Sophie Dahl — granddaughter of Roald — Iris Palmer, and Chrysselle were among those on show.

Alexander McQueen's muse, Isabella Blow, was the stylist and the venue was the Cobden Club in Notting Hill, London's newest and most fashionable members-only club. The astonishing turnout for the knitwear designer was all down to connections. Ms Christensen, who prompted applause in an intricate gold crochet sheath dress said: "I'm a close friend of a friend of Laine's and I wanted to do her a favour so I flew in specially. I wear her sweaters and the dresses feel as if you're wearing air."

Ms Keogh is friends with the members of the band U2 and they gave her exclusive use of their new album, *Pop*, as the show's soundtrack. Ms Campbell, who was once engaged to U2 member Adam Clayton, was also appearing as a favour. She caused a storm in a barely-there green asymmetrical lace-trimmed dress.

Ms Keogh, who creates extremely intricate crochet and lacework sweaters and dresses, is based in Dublin. Her clothes, which draw on the colours of the Irish landscape, range from enormous woolly dresses to skin-tight, see-through creations.

The organisers of a major charity fashion show could not match Ms Keogh in securing the supermodels' services. In preference to the show in aid of Tommy's Campaign, the Great Ormond Street Hospital charity, Jerry Hall and Kate Moss opted to appear for Stella McCartney, daughter of Paul McCartney.

Earlier in the day, Honor Fraser had been the main name in the show of Owen Gaster, a 26-year-old designer known for his science-fiction style tailoring and skin-tight trousers. He produced a streamlined collection in greys and pinks, with a symmetrical tail to some of the jackets.

Photograph, page 1

## Venice day trip recalled with sighs

PASSENGERS who took a day trip to Venice saw less of the glories of the city of canals than they had expected (Damian Whitworth writes). Their flying visit became precisely that when fog meant the plane was unable to land at its destination. The only time the aircraft touched the

ground during the seven-hour flight was when it stopped to refuel at an Italian military airport.

The Airjours trip from Birmingham was meant to include a sightseeing tour in gondolas. But instead the trippers returned home six hours earlier than expected and the

only landmarks they saw were mountain peaks as the jet circled above the Alps.

The passengers, who paid £139 each, said that modern communications systems should have stopped the jet taking off if Italy was shrouded in fog. They will receive a full refund.

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## Scots are not a race apart, industrial tribunal decides

BY SHIRLEY ENGLISH

FOUR airline stewards who claimed British Airways discriminated against them because they were Scottish had their case thrown out yesterday.

An industrial tribunal in Glasgow ruled that the case could not proceed under race relations laws because Scots did not belong to a different ethnic race to the English.

The stewards had claimed that they were treated differently from their English colleagues during company reorganisation in September 1993, when they were transferred from cabin crew jobs in the Highlands and Islands Division of BA to mainline services based in London.

They said that their new positions took no account of their years of service in Scotland. In contrast, stewards moving from Manchester and Birmingham at the same time had their past records taken into account.

As a result Caroline Gray,

31, from Glasgow, Aileen Rowes, 41, from Houston, Dorothy McGowan, 42, from Elderslie, and Mark Boyce, 34, from Paisley, all near Glasgow, said that between them they had lost a total of 38 years' service, which drastically reduced their chances of promotion and placed them at the bottom of the seniority list for cabin staff. They are still employed by the airline.

Hugh Murphy, the tribunal chairman, ruled that BA had not discriminated against them on racial grounds because they were of the same racial group as those with whom they sought to compare themselves. A claim by BA that the complaint was time-expired was rejected.

At an earlier hearing in December, BA denied discrimination and said the case should not go ahead on two technicalities: that Scots and English shared the same ethnic origin, and that the complaints had been made outside

the three-month time limit. Bill Spiers, the solicitor representing the four cabin crew, said: "In my view it is patently obvious to everyone there is a separate Scots ethnic group with a separate Scots identity. Scots have a separate legal system, their own design, music, dance, cuisine, accent, use of language." The Scots were recognised as a separate ethnic group for sport and the Government placed signs at the border.

In a similar, unrelated case, a senior police officer in Scotland has claimed he was ignored for promotion because he is English.

A report is expected in the next few weeks on whether the industrial tribunal can examine the case of Graham Power, 49, the Yorkshire-born Deputy Chief Constable of Lothian and Borders. He alleges he was left off the shortlist for the position of Chief Constable of Northern Constabulary, in Inverness, because of his race.

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## Mouthwatering sale cooked up for recipe buffs

BY ROBIN YOUNG

CHEFS have the chance to acquire the means to recreate their predecessors' greatest dishes when a collection of historic cook books is auctioned at Sotheby's in April.

The collection of 100 books includes first editions of some of the earliest

cook books in existence, as well as handwritten family recipe books handed down for generations. The recipes range from dishes fit for kings through to cures for "bedtick fever in children", the medieval equivalent of hyperactivity.

The books include *Royal Cookery* by Patrick Lamb, who was master

cook at St James's, Hampton Court and Windsor, serving monarchs from Charles II to Queen Anne, for almost half a century. His book, published in 1710 and expected to fetch up to £900, includes 35 different engraved bills of fare, many for the Royal Family, and including "hash'd carps, bisque of pigeons, lamb-pye,

sucking rabbits, butter'd crab with smelts fry'd and rock of snow and sabbubs".  
A second edition of Coelius Apicius's *De re coquinaria*, published in Venice around 1500, is expected to fetch up to £4,000. The whole collection should raise £40,000 for the vendor, a private collector.

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## Princely praises help to cross gulf in conversation

BY ALAN HAMILTON

THE Prince of Wales yesterday sang the praises of his remarkable grandmother as he met the Emir of Bahrain on the second leg of his trade-promoting tour of Gulf states.  
In one of those formal welcomes, meetings when conversation is in danger of becoming stilted or falling altogether, the Prince spoke to his host with enthusiasm and obvious pride about Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.  
"My grandmother is extraordinary; she'll be 97 in August," he told Sheikh Isa bin Sulman Al Khalifa on his arrival in the kingdom on board the Royal Yacht *Britannia*, making her last major voyage before retirement. "The operation on my grandmother's hip has revolutionised her. Now she's back to Scottish dancing again; you couldn't stop her," the Prince enthused. "She's phenomenal, but thank goodness because she is a very special person."  
The Emir, however, appeared more interested in the fate of *Britannia*, which cut a fine dash as she steamed majestically through the clear waters of the Gulf on her first visit to Bahrain in 18 years, and undoubtedly her last. The ruler expressed his surprise to the Prince that Britain should want to give up the yacht; he is said to be privately aghast at the decision to retire her later this year. There was no suggestion, however, that he had put in an offer.

then made suitably comfortable noises about Britain's relationship with Bahrain, poorest of the Gulf states but a major Middle East banking and financial centre.  
As they sat together in a sumptuous circular powder-blue room in the headquarters of the Council of Ministers in Manama, the Bahraini capital, the Emir said: "We are very proud of our friendship with the British." The Prince replied: "We value it greatly."  
Manfully, the two men kept the conversation going for the benefit of the attendant press. "We like to be close to each other to talk frankly," the Emir said of his guest seated beside him. The Prince countered with: "I'm always able to do that with the Crown Prince; I enjoy my telephone conversations."  
The Prince has formed a close and long-lasting friendship with Crown Prince Shaikh Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, eldest son of the Emir, who had earlier greeted his guest at the foot of *Britannia's* gangplank.  
The Prince spent the weekend on a trade mission in Kuwait, and today is in the tiny state of Qatar. From the oil wealth of the Gulf he will fly on Wednesday to the sharply contrasting poverty of Bangladesh. He will see aid work being carried out by Actionaid, a British organisation, and will visit the district of Sylhet, from where a large proportion of Britain's Bangladeshi community hails.

## Quick steps to a healthy old age

BY JEREMY LAURANCE

THE over-50s will be urged today to follow the Queen Mother's example and get out of their armchairs and on to the dance floor. Forty per cent of men and women over 50 spend most of the day sitting around, usually watching television, according to the Health Education Authority.  
Earlier advice to exercise vigorously three times a week has been dropped. Instead, the campaign to be launched today will seek to persuade the elderly and middle-aged to spend 30 minutes a day walking the dog, gardening, cycling or dancing.  
Experts believe that a gentler regime based on everyday activities will have wider appeal. Those who manage to switch off the television may, however, have difficulty leaving their armchair: a quarter

of women aged 70 to 74 did not have sufficient strength in their legs to get out of a chair without using their arms. The research was based on a survey of 4,300 people in England aged 50 to 74.  
Nick Cavill, the authority's physical activity manager, said: "These figures are worrying and have led us to target our Active for Life campaign at middle-aged and older people."  
"We are encouraging them to take part daily in anything that makes them feel warm, and breathe more heavily than usual."  
The young are also leading increasingly sedentary lives. Nearly 20 per cent of 16 to 24 year olds spend less than 30 minutes a week in "moderately intense" physical activity, according to the authority.

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## Funeral shorn of military trappings for soldier shot dead by IRA sniper

## 'Stephen's death must be catalyst to restart the peace process'

By ADRIAN LEE

STEPHEN RESTORICK, the soldier killed in Northern Ireland by an IRA sniper, was cremated yesterday on his twenty-fourth birthday in a funeral shorn of almost all military trappings.

The non-religious ceremony, which included pop music, anecdotes and jokes, was attended by 250 people who were told that Stephen Restorick's death should be a catalyst for peace.

Representatives of the British and Irish governments and the community of Bessbrook, Co Armagh, where the lance bombardier was shot by a sniper 13 days ago, were among mourners in his home town of Peterborough, Cambridgeshire.

Lorraine McElroy, who was injured in the attack, was unable to keep her promise to join his parents, John and Rita, at the funeral because she is still traumatised.

She was in her car speaking with Lance Bombardier Restorick when he was shot dead while manning a military checkpoint. Mrs McElroy later recalled his smiling face.



Stephen Restorick was earmarked for promotion

At his parents' request, there was no playing of the Last Post and no shots were fired.

Their son's Army cap lay on his coffin, which was draped in the Union flag, but the only other military note was the six pallbearers in uniform from his regiment, the 3rd Royal Horse Artillery. Other representatives from his regiment,

including some who were with him when he was shot, wore civilian clothes.

John Pearce, the humanist who conducted the service, said that the ceremony, which was written by Lance Bombardier Restorick's family, was upbeat and that people should not be afraid to smile.

Stephen and his parents shared no religious beliefs, Mr Pearce said, but "the rejection of vengeance, the absolute refusal to be provoked into further violence, was a principle by no means confined to the religions."

"Stephen's death had touched the hearts of many people in all parts of the British Isles. We have to hope ... that Stephen's death will be a catalyst to restart the peace process and bring both sides together to talk."

Lance Bombardier Restorick should have been celebrating his birthday with a party for friends, Mr Pearce said.

They would, in their hearts, question what he had done to deserve such a fate but they should celebrate his life. "It is a poor funeral where you cannot smile, especially at one for a man who had such a good sense of humour."

During the 45-minute service, which included a minute's silence for prayer or meditation for those who were religious, a song called *Search for the Hero* by the band M People was played, as well as *Belfast Child* and *Don't You Forget About Me*, both by the band Simple Minds. Mr Pearce said that Stephen was engaging, good-humoured and a joy to those who knew him.

Major Mark Milligan, the soldier's battery commander, said that he had been earmarked for promotion and was noted for raising morale in difficult circumstances. When shot, he had been smiling and passing the time of day with Mrs McElroy, a member of the local community.

"Despite being fatally wounded, his concern was that his colleagues should be looking after Mrs McElroy as well," Major Milligan said. "He was an excellent soldier, killed while conscientiously carrying out his duties."

Lance Bombardier Restorick's mother, a secretary, who wore a lilac jacket, left the crematorium carrying her son's cap and the furlled flag that had been on his coffin.



Rita Restorick leaving her son's funeral service with his cap, belt and the Union flag that covered his coffin

She and his father, a university technician, have written to the Prime Minister and other politicians to say that peace in Northern Ireland is slipping away and appealing for some good to come from their son's death.

Mr and Mrs Restorick said before the funeral that they received a "hopeful" response from Mr Major.

Brian Mawhinney, the Conservative Party Chairman and MP for Peterborough, who attended the ceremony, said: "Peace is an issue to which all of us have dedicated ourselves. The process will go on because we believe it has the over-

whelming support of the people."

Another mourner, Edward Barrington, the Irish Ambassador to London, said: "The message from today must be to continue to pursue a negotiated peace process."

They were joined by Isaac Hanna and Danny Kennedy, Ulster Unionist councillors from Co Armagh. "People

were beginning to live again with a bit of freedom," Mr Hanna said after the service. "This has had a totally devastating effect on everybody."

A memorial fund has been set up for Lance Bombardier Restorick with the money to be divided between the Army Benevolent Fund and charities in Bessbrook.

## Terrorist informer mourns from afar

By NICHOLAS WATT, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

SEAN O'CALLAGHAN, the former IRA terrorist who was shunned by his republican family after he became a police informer, mourned his father's death from across the Atlantic yesterday.

O'Callaghan, who is on a lecture tour in America, missed his father's funeral in Tralee, Co Kerry, because his life would have been in danger if he had returned to his home town. Instead, he sent a wreath to his father, Jack, which read "Your loving son, Sean".

O'Callaghan, who died last week aged 78, refused to talk to his son after he turned against the terrorists. The veteran republican said he had "broken his heart".

At the funeral a convicted IRA terrorist who was jailed for attempted gun-running on

the basis of information supplied by Sean O'Callaghan gave the oration. Martin Ferris did not mention O'Callaghan by name but the 120 mourners were left in no doubt who he had in mind when he said: "Jack O'Callaghan suffered anguish and pain for the past few months. He did not deserve to have to endure this pain. He was not accountable or responsible for the actions for others."

O'Callaghan was released from prison in Northern Ireland last year after serving a life sentence for his involvement in two murders.

At the forthcoming general election the SDLP will contest every constituency in Northern Ireland for the first time in its 27-year history. John Hume, the party leader, said in Belfast

## Yachtsman froze to death in stormy sea

A policeman attached by a lifeline for six hours to the chartered yacht that capsized off the Isle of Wight last week died from hypothermia, an inquest was told at Newport.

The body of PC Joseph Charley, 35, of Walsworth police station, southeast London, was recovered from the grounded *Fairview Two*. Post-mortem examinations showed that Detective Constable Tony Upton, 36, and David Asquith, 18, drowned. A fourth man survived. The inquest was adjourned.

## Skipper fined

The skipper of a Belgian trawler was fined £700 by Dover magistrates and ordered to pay £600 costs after he admitted keeping undersized sea bass in the holds of his vessel. Steven Savels, 33, was arrested in the Thames Estuary at the weekend.

## Pupil has TB

A pupil at St Paul's Girls' School, west London, has contracted tuberculosis. About 15 other girls are to be tested but the risk of infection was said to be small. The sick pupil, aged 15, lives in London and is understood to have relatives in the Middle East.

## Prison drugs

A prison officer who is alleged to have sold cannabis and advised on how to smuggle drugs into Shotts prison, Strathclyde, has been suspended. The matter has been reported to police and Bill McKinlay, Shotts's governor, has started an investigation.

## Cartoon caper

The BBC has stepped up its battle against BSkyB by increasing its broadcasts of the cartoon series *The Simpsons* from once to twice a week. The second series will be shown on BBC2 on Mondays and Fridays at 6pm from March 10.

## Victim reburied

The body of Moors murder victim Lesley Ann Downey has been exhumed and reburied. Ann West, 67, asked for permission to move her daughter after vandals daubed graffiti on the headstone, calling for Myra Hindley to be freed.

## To err is fruitful

An error has made a £6.95 Wedgwood mug a collector's item. About 1,500 mugs were made with the wrong birth and death dates for the composer Elgar. "We wanted to recall all the mugs but scores of them are being snapped up," Wedgwood said.

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Douglas Blythe, facilities manager of the Royal Opera, surveys a roof gutter

## Leak at Royal Opera may conceal damage to dome

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

A WEEK after rain from the leaking roof fell on audience and stage at the Royal Opera House, the management yesterday admitted that the damage might be more serious than it had feared.

Although the source of the leak in a crumbling gutter has been put right, there is concern that the interior of the dome might have been affected. A second drenching of Covent Garden opera-lovers

is the last thing the beleaguered opera house needs. At a meeting yesterday, the management decided that to assess the damage a surveyor would have to be hoisted 50ft above the stalls.

Rain poured through the roof last Wednesday during the last performance of Pfitzner's *Palestrina*. It fell on to Thomas Moser, just as he came to the words "my dearest wish is to be away

from here". Rain also fell on about 20 members of the audience, pouring through the plaster for about ten minutes to the uncarpeted floor.

The management, reluctant to disturb the live performance on Radio 3, decided against moving people until the interval. Staff handed out wine vouchers to opera-goers who had bought £83 tickets. One comment overheard in the crush-bar was "That's the most expensive bath I've ever had." But there was confusion over the vouchers, with some people being refused drinks. One irate man told staff: "So, I can have a free hair wash but not a free drink."

For the Royal Opera, the leak reinforces the need to repair the crumbling building. It has dozens of performances to go before the final gala on July 14 and is loath to spend money that would otherwise go towards the £214 million redevelopment. The Royal Opera remains £63 million short of its target despite the controversial award of a £78 million lottery grant.

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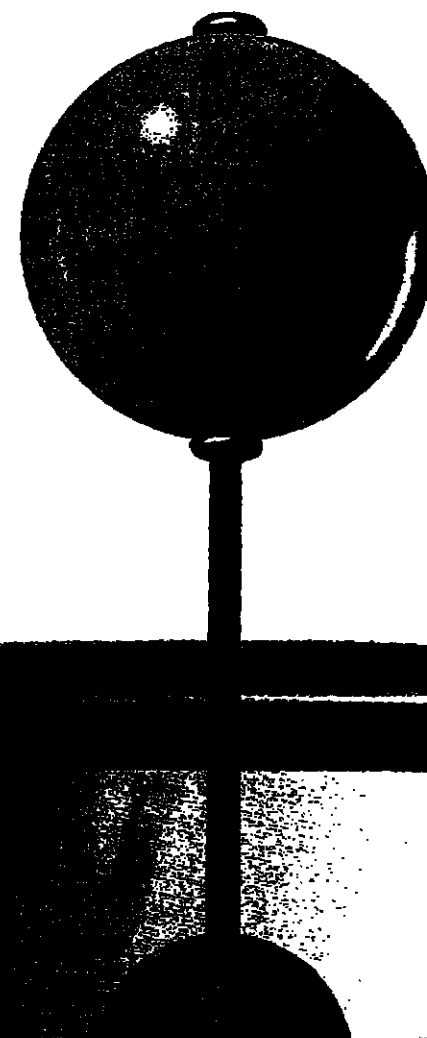
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## Mass-market authors dispute Church dogmas

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

NEW books for the mass market by revisionist theologians are challenging traditional Christian beliefs. Two rival views being published in the run-up to Easter claim to prove that the apostle Paul invented Christianity and that Jesus's brother James has been written out of the Gospels in spite of being the Church's most important early leader.

Next month a controversial book will challenge the orthodox Roman Catholic view that Jesus was the only son of Mary by presenting the disciple James as his full brother and the true successor to Jesus.

In *James the Brother of Jesus*, a 1,000-page examination of the disciple's role in the foundation of Christianity, the Dead Sea scrolls scholar Robert Eisenman also argues that Jesus had other siblings but that James was the most important "Christian" of all. He argues that James was the overarching leader of the early Church to whom the apostles Peter and Paul both owed

their allegiance. Eisenman draws on the scrolls and early church texts to challenge orthodoxy and to promote James, not Peter, as the true successor to Jesus.

While leading New Testament scholars have long held similar views, many Christians in the pews remain unaware that Jesus had brothers or that James even existed. Orthodox tradition explains away biblical references to Jesus's brothers by claiming they are cousins.

Eisenman says that James has effectively been "written out" of the Gospels by the authors but that he has been extensively documented in a host of other early texts. He argues that the Christianity of James was apocalyptic, nationalistic and xenophobic, compared to Paul's more cosmopolitan approach, which was eventually adopted by Christendom.

Jamesian Christianity, he says, included vegetarianism, daily bathing and abstinence from blood, including Christ's "blood" in the Eucharist. The



Wilson: claims St Paul invented Christianity

New Testament is one of the most successful rewrites of history, Eisenman argues.

A spokesman for the Catholic Church said: "The Church believes that Mary had only one son and that was Jesus. We believe he had cousins but no siblings."

However, Dr Tom Deidun, a Catholic scholar who teaches the New Testament at London University's Heythrop College, said that Eisenman's

thesis was supported by most New Testament scholars. "It was the view of St Jerome in the 4th century that Jesus's brothers were his cousins, but Jerome was opposed by Helvidius, who took a similar view to that expressed in this book."

In a book published yesterday, *Paul, the Mind of the Apostle*, the novelist A. N. Wilson argues that Jesus was a visionary Jewish leader who had no intention of founding a separate religion. He argues that Christianity owes its existence to Paul, whose vision on the road to Damascus led him to claim a new covenant and to put forward a view of Christ as Saviour and the Cross as the gateway to salvation.

This has already aroused considerable controversy. Dr Tom Wright, the Dean of Lichfield, was so concerned when he saw a copy of Wilson's manuscript that he has rushed into print with *What Saint Paul Really Said*, a strong counterattack on Wilson which defends the orthodox view of Paul as the faithful interpreter of Christ.



The Rev Toddy Hoare with his nude sculpture of Mary Magdalene, based on a Modigliani drawing

## Mary Magdalene was first apostle, says sculptor-vicar

By PAUL WILKINSON

A COUNTRY vicar has created a nude sculpture to further his claim that the first apostle was a woman. The Rev Toddy Hoare believes that Mary Magdalene should be canonised and says the Bible backs up his argument that the woman whom most Christians believe was a prostitute received a bad press in the Gospels.

Mr Hoare, 49, who runs eight parishes around Thirsk in North Yorkshire, said: "Mary was actually the first person to see the Lord after His resurrection, to speak to Him and to be sent by Him to preach his word. That is the definition of an apostle."

His sculpture, *St Mary Magdalene: The First Apostle*, will be shown at a month-long exhibition of his work at St Mary's, Nottingham, from March 29.

Conventional theology considers Mary Magdalene a whore who was forgiven and saved by Jesus. Mr Hoare suggests the "woman who was a sinner", as she is described in the Bible, who

washed Jesus's feet for forgiveness, was a different woman. He said many women "adored" Jesus by washing his feet and it was simply a sign of humility. He added: "There is no Gospel evidence that she was a prostitute."

The Venerable George Austin, Archdeacon of York, said: "This is a fashionable American feminist concept, the idea being that she is not a prostitute, but a woman being commanded by a patriarchal society. But she was not the first apostle, she was the first witness, and Jesus appears to her because she was a sinner who was saved. Toddy Hoare is a good sculptor but he is wrong on theology."

The sculpture, based on a 1906 drawing by Modigliani, has been carved on a concrete panel in a studio adjoining the vicarage at Knayton. His model was a parishioner.

Mr Hoare has courted controversy before, carving panels of eight disciples, also naked. "We are all naked before God," he said.

## 'At-risk' baby was thrown 150ft to death by mother

By DOMINIC KENNEDY, SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

A BABY on an "at-risk" register was thrown to his death by his mentally ill mother after social services decided she was fit to care for him, a court was told yesterday. Daniel Whayman, aged 16 weeks, died after his mother, Lisa, 33, threw him from the 150ft Orwell Bridge near Ipswich.

Whayman, who had had psychiatric problems since the age of 14, was ordered to be detained indefinitely in a mental hospital by a judge at Norwich Crown Court. Her plea of not guilty to murder, but guilty to manslaughter, was accepted.

The court was told that Whayman had schizophrenia but the condition had been diagnosed only after the baby's death. Previously psychiatrists had concluded that she had a personality disorder.

Daniel was put on an at-risk register at birth last May and soon afterwards went to live with his maternal grandparents, Ken and Marie Eley. Suffolk social services decided he should be returned to Whayman and her husband on August 30.

The prosecution said that Whayman, from Worlingworth, Suffolk, felt pressured by the thought of having to care for Daniel again. The

day before he was due to return, she visited her mother's home and was left alone with Daniel.

She took a taxi to the bridge, where the driver was reluctant to leave her because she appeared distressed.

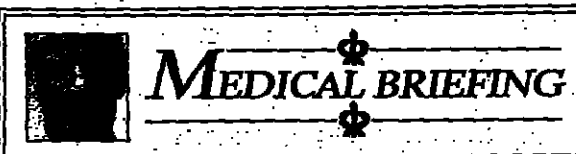
Debbie Stanford, a teacher from Felixstowe, saw Whayman throw the baby from the bridge. "I thought it was a doll. She lugged him over like a carrier bag of rubbish," Daniel landed on the grassy riverbank alive but was pronounced dead in hospital an hour later.

Suffolk social services said Daniel had been placed on the at-risk register after Whayman's GP expressed concern that she would have difficulty coping with the baby. He went to live with his grandparents to allow Whayman and her husband deal with difficulties in their relationship.

Social services decided to let Daniel return to his parents. "At no point did Lisa ever abuse or neglect that child," a spokeswoman said. "He was well looked after."

Mr Justice Wright said: "This was a terrible and tragic event. No one can be in any doubt that a mother who commits an act of unlawfully killing her own child must be in serious need of help."

## Pesticides may play role in Parkinson's



Dr Thomas Stuttaford

DENG XIAOPING's death was certified as being a result of a chest infection complicating long-standing Parkinson's disease. At 92, Deng had survived to an age when degenerative conditions of the mind and body are the rule rather than the exception, but his case illustrates the difficulties doctors have in plotting the epidemiology of disease.

Parkinson's disease seems to be becoming more common. Whether this increase in incidence is real is still uncertain. Treatment has so improved that anyone with early signs is now likely to have therapy that will enable them to live longer than would have been the case 30 years ago.

There are also those who doubt if Parkinson's is more common and suggest that it is merely diagnosed more often as doctors become aware of its

symptoms. Dr Christopher Hawkes, of the Department of Neurology at Leeds General Infirmary, has written a review in the *British Journal of Hospital Medicine* of the factors that may determine if there is an hereditary aspect to Parkinson's disease.

There are, undoubtedly, families in which Parkinson's has attacked generation after generation but such families are rare and even twin studies have not given conclusive evidence of the genetic factor. In the 1980s, the theory that an environmental agent was a likely cause was widely held. Since then, the opinion that the disease may be inherited has gained support.

The opinion favouring an inherited cause for Parkinson's is now being subtly modified and it is suggested that people inherit a tendency to develop the condition, and not the disease. It is proposed that there may well be environmental agents responsible in inducing Parkinson's in those with an inherited vulnerability.

The proposition, which receives some support from Dr Hawkes's review, is that the likely agents will be found to be toxic chemicals, and may be pesticides that are an essential part of agriculture.

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هكذا من رايهم

# Former Zimbabwe President accused of policeman's rape

FROM JAN RAATH IN HARARE

HE Rev Canaan Banana, Zimbabwe's first President, as a predatory homosexual who forced a young aide-de-camp to submit to repeated rape and sexual abuse, according to evidence disclosed here in a trial.

Jeffa Dube, 36, has told the Harare High Court that the churchman, statesman, theologian and author had used ruses, threats and imprisonment to terrorise him into an extended ordeal of deep kissing, watching gay pornographic films and oral and anal sex at State House, the official presidential residence from 1983 to 1985.

The policeman, a former ardent with three O-levels, as been tried for shooting and another officer who united him for being "Banana's homosexual wife" in 1985. He claimed he was sexually distraught as a result of his experience, and did not know what he was doing when he shot Patrick Mashiri in the head.

The evidence became public yesterday when Judge David Arlett lifted reporting restrictions imposed when the trial began last August. He said he found the policeman's evidence credible, as was the testimony of the witnesses who supported his claims. The legations of the former Presi-

dent's homosexual abuse "must be accepted as if they were true", he said.

The court was told that Mr Banana had spotted Dube playing for the police football team, the Black Mambas, in late 1983, and invited him to apply for the job of aide-de-camp. Police headquarters had nothing to do with his selection.

Dube was found guilty of murder with actual intent, but with diminished responsibility, and was sentenced to ten years in jail. The judge urged authorities to investigate the accusations against the former head of state.

There are serious implications for the Government of President Mugabe, who for the past two years has maintained vehement anti-gay rhetoric, reviling homosexuality as



Banana: theologian

a perversion imported from the West.

Evidence in the trial made it clear, however, that the senior echelons of the ruling Zanu (PF) party and of the security services were aware of Mr Banana's abuse of state power. Dube's evidence gave details of how a police commissioner and a deputy commissioner colluded in intimidating him into succumbing to the former head of state.

Dube wept as he told the court that the former President's overt advances began within a week of him starting his job, and that he resisted them for six months, until in June 1984, when he collapsed in the presidential office after being given an apparently "doctored" soft drink by Mr Banana.

He said he awoke before dawn on the carpet, without his trousers or underpants. Mr Banana was standing over him, smiling, and said: "We have helped ourselves."

Mr Banana is a pillar of respectability at home and abroad. In 1989 he served on a United Nations commission of "eminent churchmen" investigating international business in South Africa, and two years ago was the Organisation of African Unity's "eminent person" attempting to intervene in the wars in Liberia and Sierra Leone.



Taliban advancing yesterday on the Shibar Pass where it claims new successes

## Moscow sending arms to Afghans

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN MAZAR-I-SHARIF

RUSSIA is supplying arms to northern Afghanistan, its second military intervention in 18 years, to bolster defences against the extremist Taliban Islamic militia as it battles to reach Central Asia. A spring offensive by the fighters, who control two-thirds of the country, looks inevitable.

International competition for influence in the region is unprecedented. Iran has joined Russia in aiding the northern forces, while Saudi Arabia is directly or indirectly funding Taliban with the tacit support of the US.

This competition is principally economic. Central Asia contains some of the world's last big unexploited reserves. Delta Oil of Saudi Arabia and Unocal of California have signed a deal in principle to build a gas and oil pipeline from Turkmenistan to the Indian Ocean via Afghanistan and Pakistan.

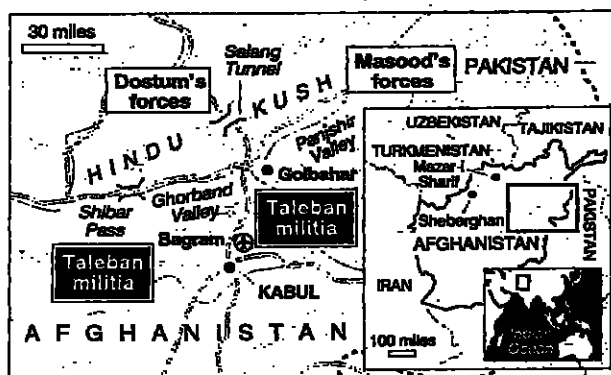
That would undermine Iran's oil industry and reduce its regional influence. Russia opposes the pipeline because it

would increase Western influence. Moscow is also concerned about the spread of Islamic fundamentalism.

General Abdul Khashid Dostum, the northern leader, told *The Times* at his military headquarters in Mazar-i-Sharif he believed Russia would send more troops to the border if Taliban encroached. But he was adamant that Russian forces would not cross into Afghanistan. "Never, never, we would not allow it." He denied that his 40,000-man army received Russian arms, although clearly it does.

Iran backs Taliban's rivals in order to protect the Shia minority — perhaps 10 per cent of the population — and because it fears US and Pakistani influence could turn Afghanistan into a centre of armed Iranian opposition.

□ **Fighters' claim:** Taliban captured the strategic Shibar Pass in Baniyan province, northwest of Kabul, the Voice of Shariat radio said. The pass is regarded as a gateway to north Afghanistan. (Reuters)



### WORLD SUMMARY

#### Call for looser Rock ties

Gibraltar: Sir Richard Luce, the former Foreign Office minister and Gibraltar's first civilian Governor since the British capture of the Rock in 1704, received a warm personal welcome yesterday but was greeted by demands from the local parliament to support a process of decolonisation for the dependency (Dominique Searle writes).

Peter Caruana, the Chief Minister, said links with Britain should be modernised on the lines of the Channel Islands. He also called for better relations with Spain.

#### Kenya riots after student's death

Nairobi: Kenyan students rampaged through the capital in protest at the death of a union activist, leaving burnt-out cars and streets blocked with rocks (Sam Kiley writes). Hundreds of students converged on State House, home of President Moi, the Nairobi parliament buildings and police headquarters after alleged police involvement in the death of Solomon Muriuki, who was killed by an explosion and fire in his room on the university campus.

#### Boris Becker 'in tax inquiry'

Bonn: German tax investigators have turned their attention to Boris Becker, the tennis star. *Der Spiegel* magazine said (Roger Boyes writes). Unlike the case involving Peter Graf, father of Steffi, Herr Becker is officially resident in Monte Carlo, not in Germany, and is therefore subject only to taxation on prize money and advertising revenue directly earned in Germany.

#### Vandals attack Lincoln tomb

New York: Vandals painted swastikas and smeared human waste over the tomb of Abraham Lincoln in Springfield, Illinois (Quentin Letts writes). It was the third such attack in ten years and was described by police as "mindless vandalism". Black bin liners were draped around the white tomb to conceal the graffiti.

#### Stalker called Rabanne 'Satan'

Paris: A woman who stalked Paco Rabanne, the Spanish fashion designer, for more than three years, accusing him of being "Satan", was given a year's suspended jail sentence and put on probation. Josiane Pasquier, 50, claimed that she taunted her by telepathy when she ate chocolate.

## Weizman's British visit renews links

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

EZER WEIZMAN, the swashbuckling former RAF fighter pilot who today becomes the first Israeli President to make a state visit to London, has many links with Britain beyond his distinguished wartime service.

His wife Reuma, who will accompany him, was born in London and his uncle, Chaim Weizmann, the first of Israel's seven Presidents, spent time in Manchester.

The Weizmann family emigrated from Russia, but the current President, now aged 72, was born in Tel Aviv. Explaining the difference in spellings of the family surname, he joked: "My father decided one 'n' was good enough for us."

Along with his late brother-in-law, Moshe Dayan, Mr Weizman is regarded as a charismatic fighter-politician. A hawk turned dove, he became the first Israeli Cabinet member to make open

contact with the then-outlawed Palestine Liberation Organisation. In the Six Day War, he laid the plans that led to the destruction of the Egyptian Air Force on the ground.

Friends say that his conversion to the peace camp came in 1970 when his son Shaul, a paratrooper, was severely injured in the Sinai campaign. He later died in a traffic accident.

Recently, he personally visited the families of each of the 73 soldiers killed when two helicopters crashed.

Mr Weizman has never been able, or much bothered, to curb his tongue. When he was castigated for contacting the PLO he replied: "We have one of the best air forces in the world and a good little army. When people say that the PLO wants to destroy us, I piddle myself with laughter."

Leading article, page 17



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## 100,000 public mourners drafted in by regime for Deng's Beijing farewell

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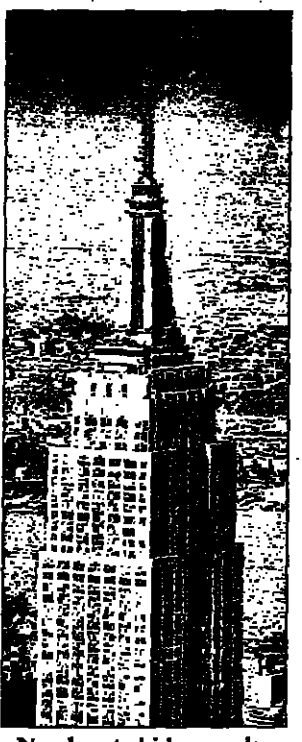
# The Empire State gunman 'had lost life savings in US'

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

HE gunman who shot seven people at the Empire State Building in New York was a 29-year-old Palestinian Engineer, a man with no apparent political motivations but simply a troubled mind and a desperately acquired, fully loaded handgun.

Fathiya Abu Kamal, 55, said her husband, Ali Abu Kamal, had cheated out of savings of about \$800,000 (£300,000) after he arrived in the United States last December seeking a job. She said she had lost her life savings in the process.

The Empire State Building was closed to tourists yesterday while police continued their investigation into Sunday's shooting, in which a 29-year-old Palestinian Engineer, a man with no apparent political motivations but simply a troubled mind and a desperately acquired, fully loaded handgun, shot seven people at the Empire State Building in New York.



No place to hide: murder in heart of Manhattan

and rail terminals, airports, tunnels and bridges.

The shooting incident left six people wounded, three in a critical condition. Numerous others suffered minor injuries in the scramble to escape down the narrow staircase. The incident took place at 5.05pm as the area was beginning to clear.

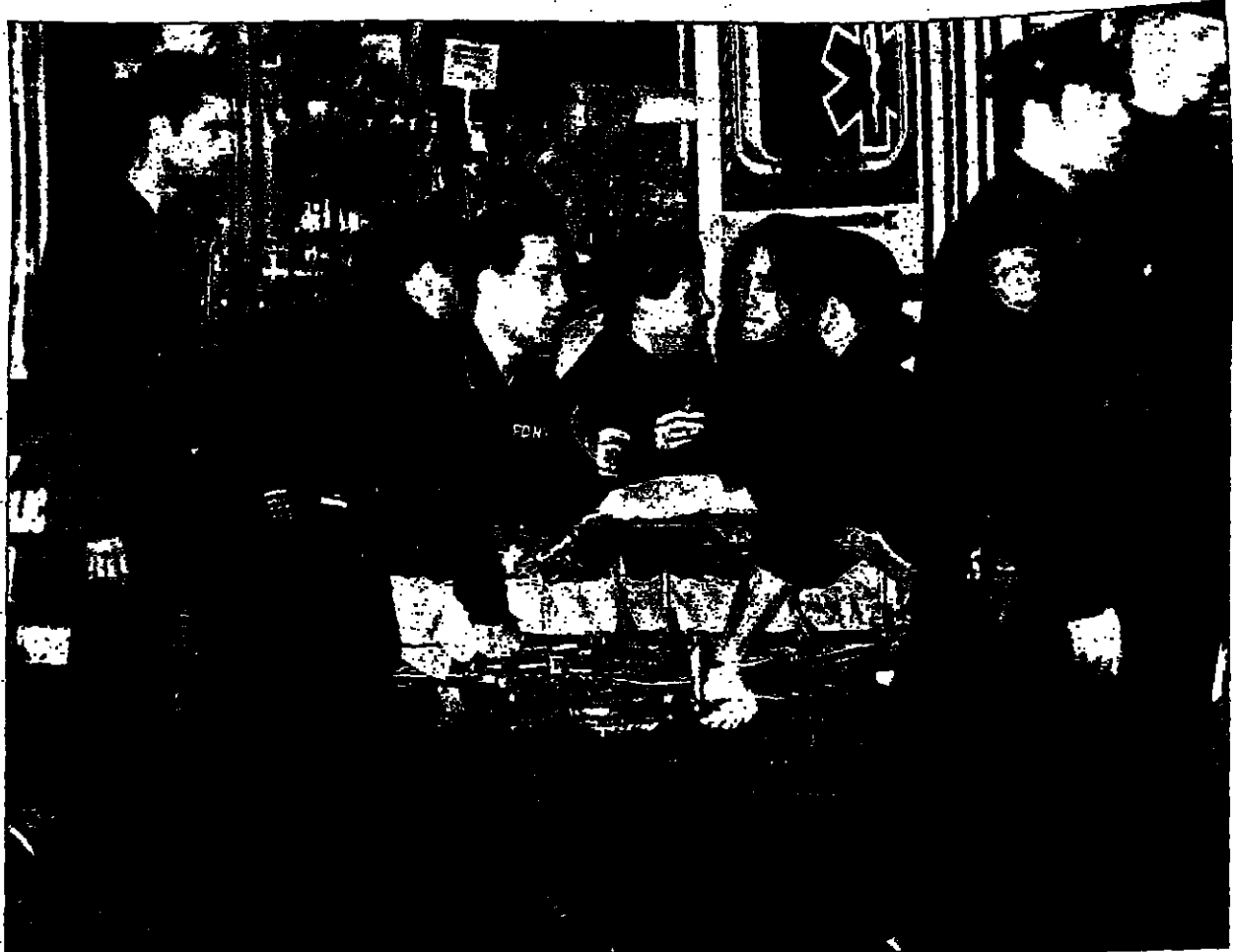
Earlier, Kamal had been in a state of excitement, pointing out sights to fellow visitors and trying to make conversation. "You from Egypt?" he asked people. "Alexandria?"

The viewing deck, scene of so many romantic interludes, including the film *An Affair to Remember* and *Sleepless in Seattle*, was turned into a scene of carnage.

David Robinson, a Briton from Stafford, said: "I thought I heard a firecracker. Then everybody just split in panic. I ran into the souvenir shop. Two guys who had been shot were in there, asking for help."

For Mr Robinson, who had gone straight to the Empire State after arriving on the afternoon flight from Britain, it was a brutal introduction to a New York he had presumed existed only in the movies. "People couldn't believe what was happening. I was very lucky because I was by the stairs and I just ran out of the door."

Nick O'Brien, 28, from Long Island, compared the reaction of the public to "a stampede —



An injured tourist is taken away from the New York landmark for treatment after the shooting in which one person died

like a herd of cattle". Babies were dropped and trampled on in the mêlée.

Kamal, who was carrying travel documents which identified his home town as Ramallah, died six hours after being taken to nearby Bellevue Hospital. Stef Nys, 36, a Belgian witness of the shootings, said that Kamal turned the gun on himself at the end. "He had a hole in his right temple," Mr Nys said.

Rudolph Giuliani, the Mayor of New York, rushed to the scene from a wedding he was conducting and insisted that the incident was a one-off,

totally at odds with New York's recent drop in crime. Mr Giuliani is well aware that for all the good he and his police have done in recent years, images of the shooting will go around the world and may harm New York's annual \$12 billion (£7.45 billion) tourist business.

Questions were asked about security arrangements at the Empire State Building, which receives about three million visitors a year. After the World Trade Centre bomb, metal detectors and security checks were introduced at the Empire State but they were soon

dropped after complaints from visitors and staff. A security camera recorded the gunman entering the building. "He had a long coat and the gun was under it," said a spokesman. "You couldn't see it."

The Empire State Building is controlled by the controversial businessman Leonora Helmsley, who appeared eager to make the best of the misfortune by announcing that, in a departure from her legendary misanthropy, she would pay for relations of the wounded to be flown to New York and accommodated.



Kamal: charmed to visitors before opening fire

## Kennedy lobbies to keep sister in Dublin

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

SENATOR Edward Kennedy, apparently angered by British reports of his sister's swift demise as US Ambassador to Ireland, has lobbied President Clinton to extend her tour in Dublin.

Mr Kennedy was reportedly spotted at a Democratic function in the White House earlier this month where he cornered the President and asked to discuss the question of Jean Kennedy Smith staying in Ireland. The discussion followed a directive from the White House to all non-career diplomats which demanded that they step down after three years. It also came after a Times report, denied by the White House and the State Department, that Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, intended to cut short Mrs Kennedy Smith's tenure as part of a shift in policy on Ireland.

Although the directive stated that non-career diplomats, 25 per cent of the American service, should leave at the end of June, Mrs Kennedy Smith is not expected to be replaced before the end of the year.

The White House would not confirm yesterday that Mr Kennedy had discussed the issue with Mr Clinton. "The President is very happy with her performance and she will be staying as long as she wants her," one official said.

The most public reason for keeping her in place is the British election. With the possibility of a Labour government, the White House wants to retain continuity for peace talks. However, British reports, believed to have spurred a meeting between Ms Albright and Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, appear to have resonated strongly in the Irish-American community.

Mr Kennedy's office declined to comment yesterday but diplomats in Washington said the veteran senator was unhappy with any suggestion of a shift in policy by the Administration. Mrs Kennedy Smith is said to want to remain next year and the success or failure of her brother's lobbying will be made clearly visible by any date for her departure.

## Albright pursued for 'denying past'

BY QUENTIN LETTS

WHILE Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, tours the globe meeting world leaders, her reputation in America has continued to take an extraordinary beating over her family history.

Ms Albright's recent arrival in office coincided with reports that she was of Jewish descent and had "failed" to acknowledge the fact that her parents, after leaving Prague in the 1930s, had converted from Judaism to Roman Catholicism.

What in Britain might have been a 24-hour story has been dragged out day after day, mainly by Jewish commentators in

the American press. The tone of the arguments have ranged from the pious to the downright abusive, with correspondents and polemicists generally attacking Ms Albright for alleged betrayal of her "Jewishness".

An initial flurry of excitement among Jews that the new steward of US foreign policy was one of their own soon faded when reports questioned just how much Ms Albright had known. In New York, which has the biggest Jewish population outside Israel, Ms Albright's name is now commonly uttered with distaste. Correspondence columns of the city's newspapers have carried numerous assaults on her motives in allegedly smudging her

background. The words "betrayal" and "denial" have been linked to her name, and a cartoon showed her burying her Jewish identity in a mass grave.

Ms Albright herself has said that she has "nothing to hide" and maintains that her parents did not tell her that they were Jewish, or that her grandparents died in Nazi concentration camps. In the past she received letters from Czech officials about her family's history, but she says that she did not pay them much attention.

Of her maiden name, Korbel, people have asked her: "Did you not realise it was a Jewish name?" She has replied that she had been told it was an old Czech word for a drinking cup.

## Gates reaps a smaller fortune

BY QUENTIN LETTS

THE fortune of Bill Gates, the boss of the American software giant Microsoft, which earlier this month was said to be possibly the greatest in the history of mankind, ranks only 31st in a newly-published league table of American wealth.

Two East Coast analysts took the individual fortunes of the richest Americans since the country's revolution and compared the figures to the gross national product of the

day. Richest, by far, was the oilman John D Rockefeller, whose \$1.4 billion at the time of his death equalled 1/65th of the gross national product. Closest to him was Cornelius Vanderbilt, the four-mouthed Dutch-descended shipping magnate of the 19th century, who had 1/87th of the GNP when he died.

Mr Gates, say the authors Michael Klepper and Robert Gunther, has the equivalent of 1/425th of America's GNP. Admittedly, the figures were compiled before his latest

sprint on the bullish New York stock market.

**Top 10 richest Americans:**  
1 J D Rockefeller...d.1937, oil  
2 C Vanderbilt...d.1877, ships  
3 J J Astor...d.1848, fur/land  
4 S Girard...d.1831, banking  
5 A Carnegie...d.1919, steel  
6 A T Stewart...d.1876, retail  
7 F Weyerhaeuser...d.1914, timber  
8 J Gould...d.1892, finance  
9 S Van Rensselaer...d.1839, land  
10 M Field...d.1906, retail/land

\* *The Wealthy 100* by Michael Klepper and Robert Gunther (Citadel Press).

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# Police uncover Eta plot to assassinate Spanish princess

BY BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS AND TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

BASQUE terrorists planned to murder or kidnap the Infanta Elena de Borbón, eldest daughter of King Juan Carlos of Spain, while she was out horse-riding in southwest France, according to one of France's top counter-terrorism experts.

The plot by militants of the Basque separatist group Eta was uncovered after the arrest last month of José Luis Urrusola Sistiaga, believed to be number three in the Eta leadership. Roland Jacquard, head of the independent International Terrorism Observatory in Paris, told *France-Soir* newspaper.

"Urrusola planned a high-profile and symbolic coup: the kidnapping or assassination of the Spanish Infanta," M Jacquard said, who has close links with the French secret services.

However, Fernando Delgado Martínez, a senior spokesman for the Spanish Interior Ministry, said yesterday that he "had absolutely no knowledge" of any plot to kill or kidnap the Infanta Elena.

Señor Urrusola, 39, was arrested in Bordeaux on January 16 after driving through a police barrier. He was allegedly carrying a revolver and false identity papers. M Jacquard said police also recovered

documents at the time of his arrest showing he had carried out intense surveillance of the locations where the King of Spain's daughter took showjumping courses at clubs in the southwest of France.

A passionate horsewoman, the Infanta Elena, 33, second in line to the Spanish throne after her brother Prince Felipe, has lived in Paris since her marriage two years ago and regularly trains at French equestrian clubs.

The alleged plot to murder the Infanta Elena is not Eta's first attempt to strike at Spain's Royal Family. An attempt to murder the King was foiled in August 1995, when Spanish police arrested

Scotland Yard's 80-strong SO14 unit, which provides protection for the Royal Family, is certain to have been alerted to the Spanish plot.

Special Branch and M15 have links to other security forces in the EU. British police would have a special interest because members of the Royal Family, especially the Prince of Wales and his former wife, have visited the Spanish royal family regularly.

three snipers in Majorca. Eta separatists are believed to have identified targets in France in retaliation for the increased co-operation between French and Spanish anti-terrorism authorities, which has led to more than 200 arrests over the past ten years.

Some 51 Spanish members of Eta are currently imprisoned in France, and young Basque separatist militants have reportedly set up terrorist cells in Brittany, the Gironde region and around Toulouse.

Counter-terrorist experts in France say that elements within Eta may have chosen to bring their campaign to France in defiance of the group's political leadership.

Juan Luis Aguirre, Eta's logistics second-in-command, was arrested last November in a "safe house" in Bayonne, where police recovered documents proposing "punitive" attacks in France and naming a series of possible targets including Jean-Louis Debré, the French Interior Minister, Laurence Le Vert, the anti-terrorism judge, and Roger Marion, the Paris police chief in charge of anti-terrorism operations. Charles Pasqua, the former Interior Minister, was also named.



The Infanta Elena de Borbón, King Juan Carlos's eldest daughter and second in line to the Spanish throne, who now lives in Paris



Master of disguise: two of Urrusola's many faces

## Chameleon on the run for 20 years

JOSÉ Luis Urrusola Sistiaga, alias Joseba, was Spain's most wanted Basque terrorist at the time of his arrest (Tunku Varadarajan writes). His genius for disguise earned him notoriety as "the man with a thousand faces", and police have remarked on the manner in which he could transform himself in minutes "from a person who looks like a young lawyer to someone who could pass for an old

Basque grandfather". Señor Urrusola, 39, was arrested by police close to his hideout near Bordeaux on January 17. He is regarded by Spanish police as the most dangerous member of the high command of Eta, the Basque terrorist group which has waged a violent campaign for independence from Madrid since 1968, in which more than 800 people have died. He is believed to be the

group's number three, charge of logistics and arms training of new recruits. Such is the mark of Eta's world, however, anti-terrorism experts in Spain speculate that Señor Urrusola might even have been group's overall commander on 18 separate charges of murder, he joined Eta in 1976, making him of the organisation's long serving members.

## Kohl fights for survival with talks on tax reform

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

HELMUT KOHL, the German Chancellor, yesterday embarked on a bruising fight for political survival by inviting leading opposition Social Democrats to cross-party negotiations on the long-delayed reform of the German tax system.

The Bonn talks, which are likely to continue for about a month, come amid frenzied speculation about the German leader's future. Herr Kohl has told friends that he will declare after Easter whether he intends to stand for re-election next year.

Some believe this means the Chancellor will be guided by personal or even sentimental reasons — he has just become a grandfather and the whole family will gather briefly over the holiday. However, the most important indication of his future will be the outcome of the talks with the Social Democrats.

Herr Kohl has broken away from his social conservative

political roots and is trying to recast himself as the moderniser of Germany. Tax, health and pension reforms are all on the agenda as the Chancellor tries to overhaul public spending and trim back the welfare state, in part to meet the entry criteria for European economic and monetary union.

As a result he has exposed the risks in his party between conservatives and reformers and now needs to call on the support of the Social Democrats, who are themselves

### US instructors accused of rape

Darmstadt: Three American army instructors in Germany have been suspended over claims that they sexually harassed and raped at least 21 women soldiers, US military authorities said here. (AFP)

divided on how far the welfare system can be pruned. The Social Democrats enjoy a majority in the Bundestag, the upper house of parliament, which has been blocking or delaying some of the Chancellor's legislation.

Bonn's governing coalition wants to cut the top level of income tax from 53 to 39 per cent, they want to scrap tax advantages for those who work at weekends or nights, and impose income tax on pensions starting from £12,000 a year. The Government also wants to tax profits from maturing life insurance policies. It is considering making up for the shortfall in tax revenue by raising value added tax.

The Social Democrats resist, for electoral reasons, any tax on pensions or night and shift work. However, the key question will be how to make up the tax revenue shortfall.

Anatole Kaletsky, page 16

## New rift over Nato threatened by France

FROM CHARLES BREMMER IN BRUSSELS

FRANCE is prepared to reverse its decision to rejoin Nato if Washington maintains its refusal to give up control of the Southern Command, based in Naples, French officials said yesterday.

Diplomats confirmed a hardening in French terms for returning to full Nato membership as the alliance reported more progress than expected in negotiations with Yevgeni Primakov, the Russian Foreign Minister, on a pact that would smooth the way for the entry of Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic. Among arrangements already outlined is the creation of a "Nato-Russia Council" to be based at the alliance's headquarters in Brussels.

Paris has been growing frustrated over the lack of support from its allies for its plans for the rapid "Europeanisation" of Nato, a process which it set last year as the price for its re-entry. While France's realisation is widely viewed as a negotiating ploy in the run-up to a string of key Nato decisions, French officials acknowledge that President Chirac could find domestic advantage in staying out of the organisation.

France's main demand has been the appointment of a European officer in charge of the Naples command, which includes the US Sixth Fleet and has always been held by Americans. Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, told President Chirac last week that the arrangement was not negotiable.

The French are in turn telling the Americans that they are prepared to stay outside rather than back down and the matter must be settled by a Nato summit in July. "This is going to depend on the White House. It's something that goes beyond Albright. Clinton will have to cut a deal," a senior French official said yesterday.

Hervé de Charette, the French Foreign Minister, said yesterday he stuck by a threat which he delivered to Nato colleagues in Brussels last week. Reforming the Naples command, which will be one of only two European regional commands in the new Nato, was the key to answering France's needs, he said. "If there is continuing disagreement, we will be obliged to stay where we are. An historic occasion would have been lost."

M de Charette proposed a scheme to share the Naples command between an American and a European officer of equal rank. US officials said it "would not be a tragedy" if France went its own way, given the irritation that M Chirac and his team have caused Washington recently.

## Tycoon lines up for Serb presidency

FROM TOM WALKER IN SARAJEVO

BOGOLJUB KARIC, Serbia's richest businessman, has said that he will run for the country's presidency if the opposition Zajedno coalition cannot put forward a realistic candidate to challenge the ruling Socialists.

According to reports in Belgrade, the multimillionaire Mr Karic, who has

Canadian citizenship, had private talks with student leaders in which he said he saw a "unique chance" to save Serbia. Mr Karic was previously a confidant of President Milosevic, and his defection from the head of state's inner circle provides fresh evidence that the Serbian leader is rapidly losing vital friends.

Zajedno has so far maintained that its presidential candidate should be Vuk Draskovic, but the charismatic novelist

and figurehead for street demonstrators is viewed with suspicion by many Serbs. Mr Karic, 43, is regarded as a Orthodox patriot with international experience and contacts who, unlike many not sully his name through war profiteering and sanctions-busting. His rift with Mr Milosevic surfaced last month when his Braca Karic television channel changed its policy and began giving full coverage to the Belgrade street protests.

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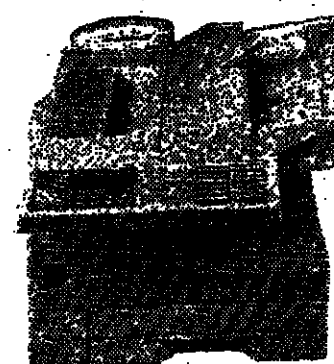
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مركز الاموال

# We will recover, I promise you that'

Part Two of series on Dunblane one year later, Angus Klatter reports how a headmaster and a teacher helped the town to cope



Ron Taylor and the class that was attacked. "I have learnt just how resilient children are. But despite their resilience, they think about things in a lot more depth. Some of the insights they have are amazing"

There was a prickle at the back of my neck as I walked across the car park towards the entrance of Dunblane Primary School. The last time I had been there, the road was closed by police, the pavement covered with a strange queue of grey-faced men, the crash-barriers held back a phalanx of tanks. It was the morning of the massacre, and news was beginning to filter out the enormity of what had happened. Now, the only sign was the security guard at the door who asked me to sign in, handed me an identity card. The rest was normal. On the walls were children's drawings. From behind a closed door came the sound of a teacher raising her voice in a background of chatter. A clutch of five-year-olds crossed the hall, giggling. Their way to another class seemed quieter than an ordinary primary school, but tips that was just my imagination.

Headmaster, Ron Taylor, one of the unsung heroes of Dunblane. It was he who led into that gymnasium, comforted the horror of what had happened. He has had to deal with the aftermath of the tragedy, the deaths of his children and the loss of his staff. Outside the boys and girls of Primary One and Two were having their break. They were scampering across the yard, joining in boisterous games, breaking off for quick, secret conversations, behaving the way young children do when they have escaped from class. They included several who had been injured by Hamilton's bullets. "Tell me," he said, "how do those children look to you? Do

they look like normal children enjoying themselves?" I said they did. "Well, there's the answer. That's what has made this last year worthwhile." That simple scene, of course, masks a more complex reality. The scars of March 13 are still exposed, and Mr Taylor has learnt much since then about children and how they deal with shock and loss. "I have learnt just how resilient children are. But despite their resilience, they think about things in a lot more depth than people realise. I know from discussions and things they've written that they are almost more reflective than adults are, and some of the insights they have are amazing."

A number of the children, for instance, wondered at Christmas whether it would be all right to enjoy the day in view of what had happened. Teachers had to spend a lot of time reassuring them that of course it would be. "We discussed how we were never going to forget the children who died, but equally we had to move on, too. For young children to be concerned that Christmas was something they could enjoy was a real problem for us."

That concern continues. "We have a seven-year-old boy who has a birthday very close to the anniversary, and he is going through a lot of problems about whether he should have a party. It's these kind of issues that arise all the time." As if that was not enough, there has been a restructuring, with some pupils moving to a new school across the river. They have not wanted to go, and some have worried about "abandoning" their classmates.

The children are not the only ones to have faced emotional hurdles. The teachers, including those who were injured by Hamilton's bullets, have had to present a reassuring front to their pupils every day. Yet they are coping with psychological stress of a kind hard for the rest of us to imagine. Neither Mr Taylor nor his staff have taken more than a day or two off since the tragedy. Certainly, there has been counselling and psychological support, but in the end they have been thrown back on their own resources.

"Because this is a unique situation," says Mr Taylor, "no one can really guide us. The stress on staff has been tremendous. Dealing with their own feelings and trying to cope with the children and trying to make the school a normal learning environment has been a huge task. But they've coped and achieved that magnificently. Morale has always been high and the team spirit that has developed has been quite marvellous."

"Many have gone to GPs to receive medication and have been put on to counsellors or psychiatrists or whatever. Each person copes in their own way. But the interesting thing is that almost everyone had to do that. Myself included. Some pupils require considerable help. They find school a sanctuary almost. It's strange. I would hesitate to say it's a safe environment for them. But in a way it is. When they're home some children exhibit problems. But here they are together with their friends and getting support. And that's how the staff feel."

## 'Our job is simply to be there'

"I CAN detect from some people almost a sense of relief that we are coming to what they would recognise as the final hurdle," says the Rev Colin McIntosh. "After this, they are saying, Dunblane will get back to normal."

That may be the hope. Mr McIntosh himself seems less certain of it being realised. The minister of Dunblane Cathedral, who has been dealing with the spiritual crisis into which the town was plunged by the events of March 13, is still deeply troubled by its aftermath, and cannot see the scars being easily healed. "I am conscious of the mistakes I have made, and also, in retrospect, the things I feel I should have anticipated but didn't. Like realising that we would come to the stage where people would be moving on at different rates. I think I should have known that."

He concedes that after the initial unity, there was "a simmering tension" in the community which came to a head just before Christmas. A trivial incident over whether to site a Christmas tree at the cemetery divided those who believed that the time had come to turn their backs on the tragedy, and those who could not put the past behind them.

"It actually was a very cathartic time," says Mr McIntosh. "It helped a lot of us to realise that we couldn't expect people to be thinking and saying the same things, because they were at different stages. And when we stopped and looked at some of the things we had said, we were a wee bitly ashamed of ourselves. We had to respect each other."

It has made him pull back from the role that was initially assigned to him — as much by the media as the town itself — of spiritual guide, figurehead almost for a grieving community. His message from the pulpit at the memorial

service, with its wonderfully moving sentence, "God was the first of all our hearts to break", placed him at the centre of the Dunblane stage. Now, however, he has doubts about the wisdom of that approach. "I wonder if the role for a number of us is not to be a little more quiet... to stay in the background. For quite a large part of the year we were fairly prominent because, in all humility, we felt that the community had to be guided. But a year on, people are all at different stages in the process of healing. Whereas last March we could say that the whole community was united in that everyone felt exactly the same, we can't say that now... Our job is simply to be there and available, but a bit more quietly in the background... does that make sense?"

He admits, too, that for many "God has not been at the top of their agenda". Their preoccupation has been with survival rather than questions about faith and reconciliation. "I think an increasing number of people do not express their faith in terms of church attendance, so it's difficult to quantify how that faith has been affected. But there is a lot of distress at a very deep level and reactions to that are very different."

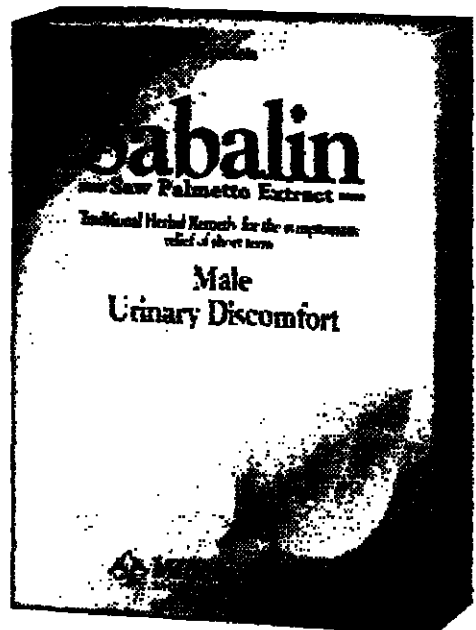
It is clear that the minister feels that "deep level of distress" himself. Sitting in the large manse with his two large golden retrievers beside him, he seems a lonely figure, only too conscious of his inadequacy in helping others to cope with their suffering. Everyone who knows him says this is simply not the case and that he has been a tower of strength. He remains unconvinced. But though events may have shaken his faith, they have not undermined it. "At the same time, I felt that I was being helped, if that makes sense."

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'They find school a sanctuary almost, it is strange'

families can visit the site of the shooting — the gymnasium has long since been razed, and trees planted in the space. Thereafter it will be a normal day. Suggestions that there should be a minute's silence were rejected as inappropriate. "What do you ask Primary Two children to think about?" Presiding over this will be a man who exudes quiet confidence, but who is also subject to strong emotion. As well as dealing with the aftermath of tragedy, Mr Taylor has been going through a divorce, so there has been no stable family to fall back on. How has he coped? Mainly, he says, by talking. "I feel able to talk without too much of a problem," he says. "Each person copes in their own way, myself included. Here we are together with friends and getting support. There will always be scars. Always emotional scars. It's not something one can ever forget. Losing a colleague and losing children are just one's worst nightmare. But to survive and to be true to the children who are here, we have to put it behind us and move on. We have no option."



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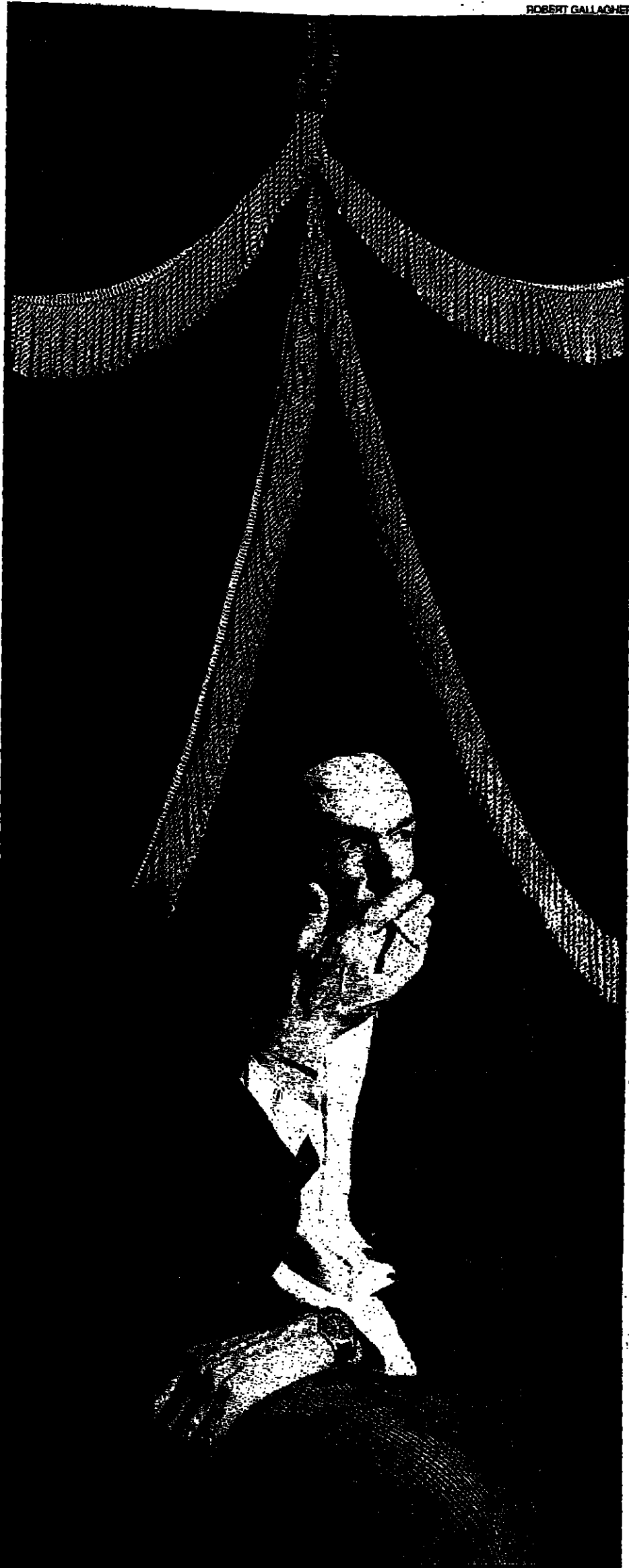
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# 'I spent too much of my time on wine and women'



For Gems, *Mars Attacks* was his "baby", but it may also be his Hollywood swansong

To the muted strains of a swing band, three strippers shimmy out of their corsets and shake their assets at the camera, over and over again. Between takes Jonathan Gems peers into a video monitor and rubs his chin.

The location is a cramped Hollywood basement made to look like a smoke-filled nightclub. Money is tight, time is short and rumour has it that one of the girls is being an intolerable prima donna. Considering he has never directed a film before, Mr Gems is a picture of cool. He seldom raises his voice and his woolly skull cap and rumpled Oxford jacket make him look like a walk-on from *Les Misérables*.

The outfit could have been calculated to send the message that its wearer has already survived most of the traumas showbiz can throw at a man, not to mention those of living with a famous mother and a sister born with Down's syndrome. It will take more than a grumpy starlet to upset him.

Gems is the son of Pam Gems, the *grande dame* of the West End whose hit play about Stanley Spencer has just transferred to New York. Her son, too, was a colourful figure on the London theatre scene until moving west to seek his fortune in the movies seven years ago, and his current film is his \$1 million adaptation of his mother's play, *The Treat*, about three prostitutes gearing up for a big night with a local politician.

On his last job the stakes were higher: he was the writer of *Mars Attacks*, a massive \$80 million sci-fi spoof from Warner Brothers that was supposed to rule the spring box office in America. Instead it had a miserable opening despite a cast that includes Jack Nicholson, Glenn Close and an unusually funny Pierce Brosnan.

The film, Gems says, was a victim of "the worst marketing campaign that Warners have ever done". But for a Brit enmeshed in by far the biggest project of his career, it was still something of a triumph.

He dreamt the whole thing up after stumbling on a set of 1950s *Mars Attacks* bubble-gum cards in a junk shop called Wacko on Melrose Avenue — his local King's Road. He sold the idea of ray-gun happy Martians in 70mm celluloid to his friend, the director Tim Burton, whom he

Jonathan Gems, the British screenwriter of *Mars Attacks*, is currently directing his first American film, *The Treat*. But after that is finished he plans to leave Los Angeles and return to London. He tells Giles Whittell why

paired up with another friend, the model Lisa Marie, after working with Burton on the first *Barman* film in 1989. (The couple have since been married, and divorced.) Burton hired Gems to write a script and a first draft was ready by January 1995.

At that point Gems was fired. "Somebody, I don't know who, got me canned," he says, munching an apple between scenes. "Then the studio hired this writing team who re-did the script and basically made a mess of it. So the movie was going to be cancelled. Everyone was put on notice that they were going to be fired too."

Gems says he then rode to the rescue with his own rewrite which the studio approved. Jack Nicholson also performed a crucial role by agreeing to play a nauseatingly spineless President, but it, as seems likely, the film recoups its costs when it opens in Britain on Friday. Gems will have every right to feel smug.

*Mars Attacks* is, to a large extent, his "baby", but it may also be his Hollywood swansong. He has no idea whether *The Treat* will make it into cinemas, and once it is shot he plans to return to London and live in a house bought with his screenwriting winnings in a leafy mews in Shepherd's Bush.

"Los Angeles is a desert," he says. "There's no nourishment here. It's a good place to make films because the world film industry is here, but it's not a good place to live."

He refuses to comment on dark gossip that *Independence Day*, last summer's

blockbuster in the US about an alien invasion, was based on a purloined copy of his *Mars Attacks* script.

But when our conversation turns to a different sort of shuffling for which Hollywood is well known, he lets rip with startling venom: "All the women are whores here, especially if you're a director. All

went to a series of expensive private schools including Stowe. (The fees came from a small fortune his father made by opening a chain of wax museums across America in the late 1960s.)

He left Stowe at 17 and never went to college — something he pretends, at least, not to regret. "Being beaten and buggered at boarding school was a good training for life," he says in the tone of a bank manager remembering his army cadet days. "Especially life in LA."

LA was a world away from the London fringe in the late Seventies, however. There Gems broke through with his first full-length play, *The Tax Exile*, which was also the first piece of work he let his mother knock into shape.

He did not regret it — it won several awards and an extended run at the Bush Theatre — but she did, telling an interviewer that she worried about whether he would be able to cope with his success, or repeat it.

He certainly wallowed in it. "After *The Tax Exile* all the girls in London wanted to f--- me, so I let them," he says with typical modesty. "It was an interesting but ultimately very destructive experience. I spent too much time on wine and women and not enough time working, and I would end up broke. I've since learnt you have to husband your talents."

Gems has also learnt what it means to be outspoken, and, at the same time, politically incorrect. In 1985 his play *Susan's Breasts*, which he calls "a simple teenage love story", so enraged London's feminists

that they picketed the Royal Court Theatre in a vain attempt to curb a popular stampede to see it.

He relishes describing how Max Stafford-Clarke, the theatre's artistic director, banned him from his own play "because he wanted to keep in with the feminists". Talking about his disabled sister, Lala, is clearly harder. Even so, he takes on the Establishment with gusto.

The social services can be quite fascistic in taking children away from their families and putting them in homes just because they're handicapped," he says. "A hundred years ago every village had a village idiot and they were an enriching part of society. Now they put them away, where of course they die young, in misery, and society doesn't have the pleasure of their presence."

Lala, by contrast, spends a third of the year in a special school in Wales and two thirds at home with her parents in London.

At 27 she has a mental age of nine, and is, her big brother says, "completely delightful" — not least as a source of naive comedy which he traces back to the era of *commedia dell'arte* and tries to incorporate in his own work.

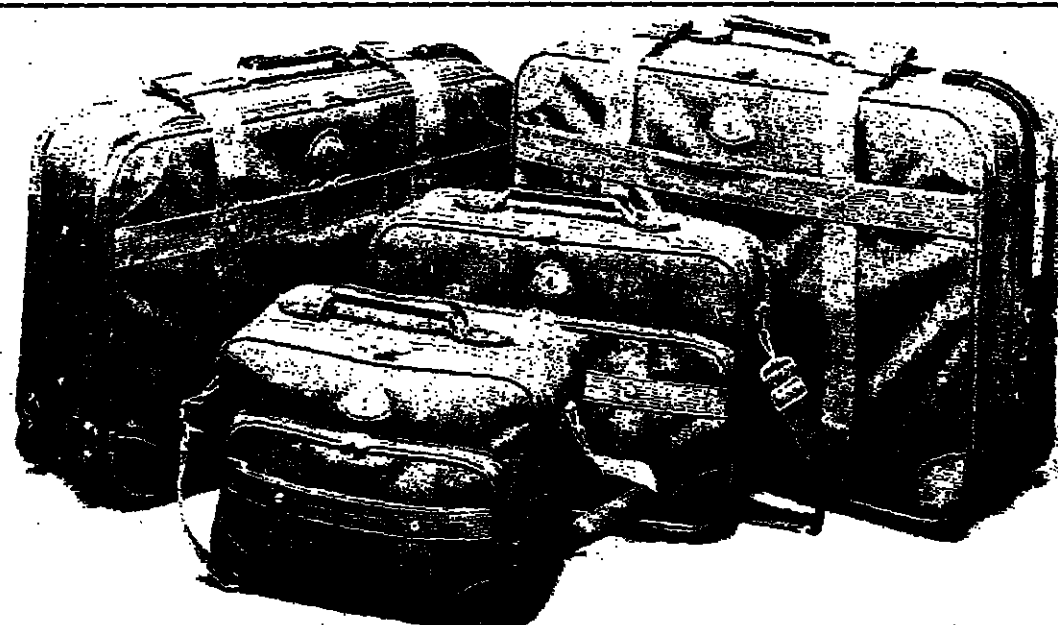
He will soon be seeing more of her, and of a London he is convinced is on the verge of a film-making boom. "We've got the talent, we've got the technicians and we've got the stars," he says. "All we need is intelligent producers and government help in taking away some of the tax restrictions. Then film-making would be highly profitable, and a much safer bet than..." he flails for a comparison, but only briefly, "shipping."

From the man who just wrote *Mars Attacks*, that's some vote of confidence.



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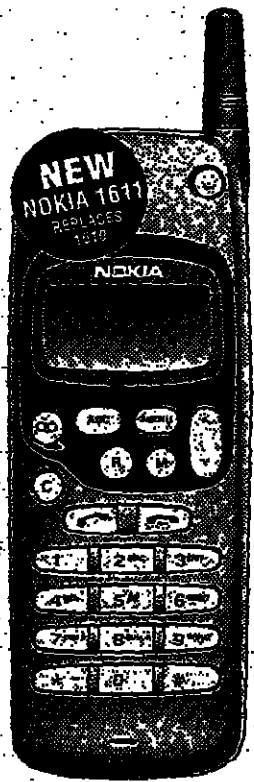
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CALLS TO 0900, 0901, 0902, 0903, 0904, 0905, 0906, 0907, 0908, 0909, 0910, 0911, 0912, 0913, 0914, 0915, 0916, 0917, 0918, 0919, 0920, 0921, 0922, 0923, 0924, 0925, 0926, 0927, 0928, 0929, 0930, 0931, 0932, 0933, 0934, 0935, 0936, 0937, 0938, 0939, 0940, 0941, 0942, 0943, 0944, 0945, 0946, 0947, 0948, 0949, 0950, 0951, 0952, 0953, 0954, 0955, 0956, 0957, 0958, 0959, 0960, 0961, 0962, 0963, 0964, 0965, 0966, 0967, 0968, 0969, 0970, 0971, 0972, 0973, 0974, 0975, 0976, 0977, 0978, 0979, 0980, 0981, 0982, 0983, 0984, 0985, 0986, 0987, 0988, 0989, 0990, 0991, 0992, 0993, 0994, 0995, 0996, 0997, 0998, 0999, 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1008, 1009, 1010, 1011, 1012, 1013, 1014, 1015, 1016, 1017, 1018, 1019, 1020, 1021, 1022, 1023, 1024, 1025, 1026, 1027, 1028, 1029, 1030, 1031, 1032, 1033, 1034, 1035, 1036, 1037, 1038, 1039, 1040, 1041, 1042, 1043, 1044, 1045, 1046, 1047, 1048, 1049, 1050, 1051, 1052, 1053, 1054, 1055, 1056, 1057, 1058, 1059, 1060, 1061, 1062, 1063, 1064, 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## Faith in the family

Devaluing domesticity is fatal to society, says Jonathan Sacks

Consider a family: father, mother and children. They live, eat and relax together, though each wants time and space in which to be alone. There are certain rules that bind them together, without which they would find it difficult to get along. Let us suppose that these include such things as this: that on at least some nights of the week they eat together, that not everyone talks at once, that there is a roughly equitable sharing of responsibilities, and that when Mum or Dad says that it's time to go to bed, there are rituals of protest followed by reluctant obedience.

Sometimes the rules break down, as they do in every family. There are arguments, "scenes", minor rebellions. These are followed by the routines of reconciliation — someone says sorry, he or she is forgiven, order is restored, and love reaffirmed. In this sequence of everyday transactions we witness, in miniature, the making and sustaining of the moral life.

Deep beneath the surface of this family are certain fundamental concepts: fidelity, loyalty, responsibility, authority, obedience, justice and compassion. They frame a series of expectations: that neither husband nor wife will commit adultery, that when the children are young they will do what they are told, sometimes (though as rarely as possible) without fully understanding why, that parental requests will be consistent, fair and in the long-term interests of the children, and that the members of the family will not walk out on one another or ignore a cry for help.

Except in extreme situations, these things do not need to be spelt out, because the family is a social institution. It is not something its members have invented, any more than they have made the language they speak. It is something they have inherited from the culture — from habit or custom, or the example of their parents, or possibly religious teaching. But when one of the basic rules is broken, there is a breach in the wall of trust, and unless it is mended, the family will not be the same again.

The stable family is not a dispensable institution. Communities such as the Israeli kibbutz have tried, and after long experience, have reverted to more traditional patterns. The family is the crucible of much that matters in later life, the growth of sympathy and trust and sociability. It is where we learn who we are, where we came from, and where we belong. Above all, it is the matrix of the belief that lies at the heart of hope itself, namely that love given is not given in vain, that in the sharing of vulnerabilities we discover strength. Heaven help us if, as a society, we are judged by history to have come pained for the protection of animals, birds, rare plants and rainforests while failing to heed the cry of our own children.

It is not that there are no government policies that would, over the course of time, bring healing to the fractured family. There are. We could use the law, education and fiscal policy to send a clear message that marriage, though not the only, is the socially preferred context of child-rearing. Indeed, in strict economic terms there are overwhelming reasons for doing so. The family can be strengthened, and even on strictly non-moral grounds, should be. But it will not be done. The political will is lacking.

A politics of institutions is not a politics of interest, it is a politics of the common good. To exist at all it must be prepared to make moral judgments, not indeed to legislate on them, but at the very least to bring them within the domain of public debate, so that in time we may be able to create a political will that is currently lacking. With grave trepidation, therefore, I want to say what others, surely no less wise, believe cannot be said.



We no more invent our families than our language

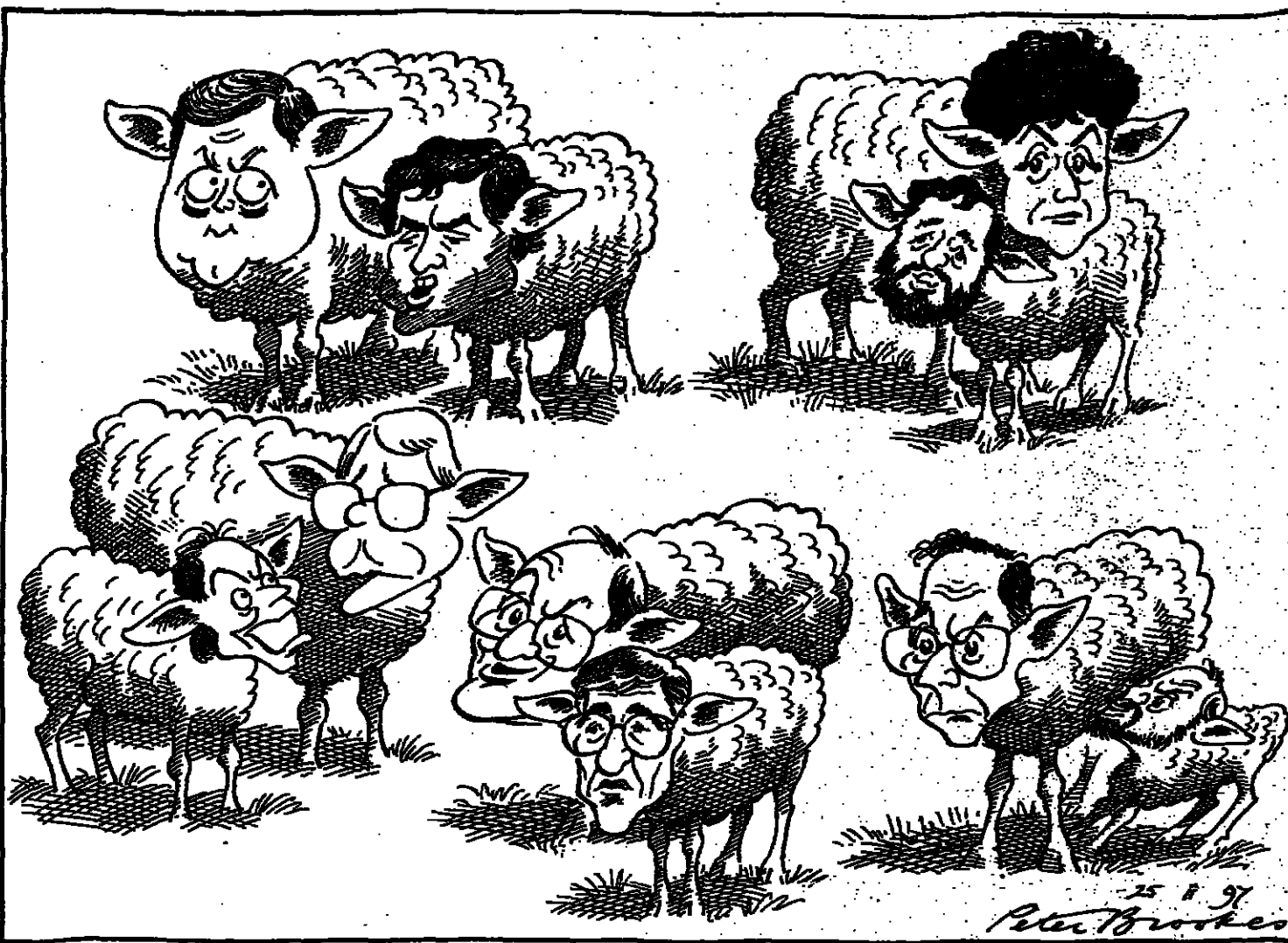
If we have any moral responsibilities at all, then we have moral responsibilities to those we brought into being. To have a child and then walk away is an abandonment of the most extreme kind, whatever the cause or circumstance. If we have a duty to fulfil any undertaking, we have a duty to honour the pledge of marriage. For in marriage we ask for and offer a commitment to share not this or that aspect of life but life itself. Marriage is the supreme example of a moral bond. If marriage is holy, adultery is a sin. If it is moral, then adultery is a wrong. Adultery is wrong because it is a betrayal — of a partner, a commitment, a promise, a trust.

Understanding why adultery is wrong allows us to understand why morality matters, and why so few acts are truly private. It devalues the currency of commitment: the word spoken, the pledge given, the promise undertaken. What we do today affects, consciously or unconsciously, by our example. We teach our partners, friends, and above all our children, that despite our most serious undertakings, the word of another person cannot be trusted.

Reconnecting morality and politics is the genesis of hope, because morality restores to politics the idea that there are things I can change. I am bound to others, and together we are the co-authors of our world. Of this, the supreme example is the family. Far from being the institution we can least affect, it is the one we can most affect, as it is made or unmade by our choices.

The devaluing of the family and the legitimising of sexual licence, whether in Ancient Greece or contemporary Britain, is the beginning of the end of a social system. If there are any objective limits to a moral order, they lie here. We need to be cared for before we can learn to care for others. The family will die only if we lose faith in it. We have not lost faith in it, so it will not die.

*Jonathan Sacks, who is the Chief Rabbi of the United Synagogue, will be published on March 6 by Cape, (£15.99).*



A MIRACLE OF SCIENCE: PERFECT COPIES

## Like a wolf on the fold

Cloning animals reduces diversity, and means imperilling genetic strains that we may need in future

The shepherd's calendar will never be the same now that we have Dolly the lamb, cloned in Edinburgh from a scrap of udder. This revolutionary mammal is the first offspring grown, via a modified egg and surrogate mother, from a shred of an adult animal's body to which she is genetically identical. Why, hello Dolly! I trust the spring keeps fine for you.

It is just as well that the team at the Roslin Institute and PPL Therapeutics have so carefully explained why they did it. We are told that Dolly offers the possibility of producing flocks of medicated transgenic milk-sheep to help, for instance, haemophiliacs. As medical research, this is less vulnerable to Luddite vilification: it would clearly never have done for some supermarket chain to have brazenly presented her as the answer to the problem of standardising lamb chops so as to bring down the costs of shrink-wrapping.

Even so, the Frankenstein alarmists have had plenty to work on. If they can do it with sheep, they will soon work out how to do it to human beings, they cry. It is illegal in Britain even to try, but who knows about the world's less lawful corners? Commentators have dug out Ira Levin's old thriller *The Boys from Brazil*, in which neo-Nazis secretly clone Hitler in the rainforest and place the children for adoption in families with an identical social profile to the late Adolf's, hoping to strike lucky again. Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World* has been dusted off, too, with its image of obedient workers being rolled off a production line (although they were not clones of an adult but grossly multiplied twins, 15,000 per egg).

There has been wild talk of dictators cloning themselves, impresarios cloning ageing superstars (grow your own Ken Dodd) or parents stockpiling spare embryos of their baby in case of cot-death. *The Times* caused many of us to choke over yesterday's toast with a deadpan line from a science writer about a woman who asked him "only last week" how she could clone her dead father and bring him back to life as a baby, perhaps even carrying him in her own womb. He has sent her a message saying "it will be possible sooner than she thinks". Sadly, this does not appear to have been accompanied by another message saying "See a psychiatrist, madam, now."

No doubt by today even more grisly possibilities will have emerged.

up to and including the suggestion that Baroness Thatcher has donated a chunk of soft tissue to the backroom boys at Conservative Central Office, while old Labour renegades are secretly churning out baby Bernas. Good, rousing sci-fi stuff you might easily forget that it all began with one little lamb.

This is a pity. Leaving aside the disgusting and wholly pointless possibility of human cloning, there are more urgent questions. This breakthrough has been made with animals, and the earliest risks lie with animals. Transgenic medical sheep

two-sex breeding methods. Add the possibility of cloning, cultivate a cavalier disregard for the tiny but significant faults introduced every time you blast the building-blocks of life with electric current or soak them in chemical baths, and you have a limitless range of possibilities for disaster — long before you ever get near human cloning.

It is not animal welfare that bothers me most. Dolly will have a more comfortable life than her cousins who take their chances out on the fells with the foxes. Early cloned animals will be well looked after, simply because they will be so staggeringly expensive. As the price comes down, and identical herds and flocks are commonplace, their lives will probably be no different from those of ordinary farm animals (which is to say that

if they are in the hands of a welfare-minded farmer they will live decently and die humanely, and if they are in more intensive units God help them). Possibly — probably — being genetically identical groups they will be more prone to disease, and not give the farmer the usual sporting chance that an epidemic will spare some resistant specimens. But even that is not the main problem.

What looks at us out of the dark eyes of Dolly the lamb is a subtler, more sombre threat. Already, by modern breeding methods and the widespread use of artificial insemination, we have narrowed the gene pool of farm animals to an alarming degree. Admittedly, all farm stock are the product of patient centuries of deliberate breeding, but remember that until this century, a bull's or boar's range was limited to how far he or his day's mate could trot. Now a prize bull may have his sperm flown all round the world and produce ten thousand offspring in a year.

But at least they are all by different cows: this gives some chance to

genetic diversity, and slows down the process of narrowing the species. Cloning will speed it up. The best animals will be more able to crowd out the rest.

"So the fittest will survive," you say. "So what?" You could argue eloquently for taking the expensive uncertainties out of breeding, and ending the classic frustration of putting two fine animals together and producing a weedy one. You could promise guaranteed herds of BSE-resistant cattle, medically useful sheep, fast racehorses and pigs which produce low-fat bacon. If the demand is there, why not meet it without hesitation and let biodiversity go hang?

Because, quite simply, it is not for us to end evolution. The history of living creatures is a story of change and adaptation. Normal reproduction ensures that the genetic kaleidoscope is shaken every single time. Besides, the qualities which we value today, may not be those the future needs. Already some farmers have been compelled to turn to previously scorned, rare breeds — preserved by enthusiasts — to freshen up inbred stock. Others have found that circumstances change: when the fashion for indoor tethered pigs began to give way to free-range ones in fields, farmers sought out old-fashioned, hardy bloodlines that would flourish out in the cold. Needs constantly change, the very climate may be changing. There may be future diseases to which only some 'breed' hitherto scorned as uneconomic can supply the biological answer. Or it may be that the next level of excellence in some creature has yet to manifest itself and will turn up by accident. It has happened often enough.

If we do prefer the library control of cloning to the glorious gamble of life, we will be interfering with nature in a way far more arrogant and dangerous than ever before. We do not know what is coming, even to our own species. A modern parent might demand a lean baby with computer skills and an aptitude for figure-skating and GCSE, and so unwittingly betray some future, post-cataclysmic generation which desperately needs stout hardy labourers to dig and carry water. Diversity, in all living things, is our best hope.

Never mind, I pin my faith on the well-known ability of sheep to frustrate their owners. I would like to think that Dolly will hop out of her pen in a few months' time, find a handsome low-bred Highland ram and teach us a bit of humility.

## It's now or never for Kohl

Anatole Kaletsky says delay is fatal to monetary union

In doubt, why not procrastinate? Monetary union is becoming a nightmare for every politician in Europe, including the only one who really matters — Helmut Kohl. So will Germany simply decide that it should be delayed? To delay may be tempting, but it is easier said than done.

Herr Kohl believes in "European construction" with a passion and sincerity that most people in Britain simply cannot understand. The innuendos in the German press about "the Jew" Moshe Rabinoff suggested one respectable, if bizarre, reason for Herr Kohl's passion. As another European statesman of Jewish extraction once remarked: "Kohl fears that somewhere in the heart of Germany still lurks a hint of the old madness. That's why he is so determined. When he says that Germany must be committed to Europe he means it in the sense of commitment to an asylum." Allowing for rhetorical overstatement, this seems a reasonable analysis of Herr Kohl's repeated admonitions that monetary union is "a matter of war or peace for Europe".

The trouble is that the Maastricht treaty — the legal instrument by which Germany was to be humanely committed to Europe — is failing in two important ways. It is obviously failing to provide a sensible blueprint for economic management in Europe. Instead of carrying the European economies into monetary union on the crest of a wave of prosperity and social cohesion, the Maastricht conditions are pushing both Germany and France back into a dark age of mass unemployment. The treaty also seems to be failing in its other main objective. With Germany and France no longer certain to satisfy all the criteria, there is no watertight legal pretext for keeping Italy, Spain and other unstable countries out of the single currency zone in the first round.

So what is to be done? Why not stick to the strict interpretation of the Maastricht targets and forget about the treaty's timetable, which states that monetary union must go ahead in 1999? Superficially this looks a comfortable solution for all concerned. On closer inspection, however, it would satisfy no one and could give Europe the worst of all possible worlds. Consider what would happen. Herr Kohl would announce that Germany would not go ahead with monetary union until all of the Maastricht conditions are fully satisfied. In Germany's case this would mean reducing the budget deficit to below 3 per cent of gross domestic product, from the likely level of 3.2 to 3.5 per cent in 1997.

If the Government stuck unrelentingly to its fiscal retrenchment and the economy grew reasonably well in the next two years, then there would be a reasonable chance of fulfilling the targets in 1998 and going ahead with the single currency by January 2000. But if these two conditions were satisfied, then there would be no problem in going ahead on the present timetable, in 1999. The treaty explicitly says that judgments should be made not only about actual deficits, but also about "planned deficits", and should consider whether any excess in the deficit is "temporary and remains close to the reference level [of 3 per cent]".

If the delay were announced at a time when the German economy was faltering, the deficit was overshooting and the Government was finding it impossible to push through spending cuts and higher taxes, financial markets and German voters would expect an easing of fiscal policy and assume a weakening of the commitment to the Maastricht targets in the foreseeable future. And once the deadline for monetary union was pushed out beyond the year 2000, it would probably also run beyond the career expectations of Herr Kohl and the generation of monetary union enthusiasts who now dominate German politics.

Once the timetable set down in the Maastricht treaty and solemnly ratified by all Europe's national parliaments became a dead letter, any future timetables or promises would become worthless. Memories would be revived of the Werner Plan to create a single currency for Europe as early as 1970.

While such a collapse of confidence in the project might not matter much for Germany, it would provoke financial crises in Italy, Spain, Belgium and probably France. The French would recall that their biggest negotiating triumph at Maastricht was winning Herr Kohl's agreement to the strict deadline of January 1999 against the furious objections of his own Finance Ministry and the Bundesbank. Only in exchange for this deadline did France give in to the German demands for an independent European central bank. If the Germans abandoned the deadline, France would reopen every aspect of the deal. The single currency process would unravel, leaving Germans suspicious of Europe and Europe hostile to Germany.

In sum, to abandon the Maastricht deadline in conditions of economic adversity would be to abandon the whole project of monetary union. Helmut Kohl would do almost anything to avoid such a decision, especially as the coda to his political career.

## Third leader

SUPPORT for the Referendum Party has been pledged by Third Way, the favourite bathhouse reading of former National Front activists. The magazine, which is run by NF members who left because of ideological differences, swings foursquare behind Sir James Goldsmith's lot.

Third Way, which calls itself "the voice of the radical centre", is a nationalist and culturally separatist rag run by Patrick Harrington, formerly a big banana with the NF. Its latest issue has a cover picture of Goldsmith in ruminative pose, and an extended discussion of why Third Way bulldozes should vote Referendum.

"I believe that Sir James Goldsmith is a sincere man and many of his views are complementary to our own," says Harrington, who had to attend lectures on his own as a student at North London Polytechnic because his classmates found his extreme right-wing views so objectionable.

Harrington has not had any contact with the Referendum Party since the middle of last year, when he was told his request for an

interview with Goldsmith would be "sympathetically considered". "All the same," he says, "I am encouraging my supporters to vote for and support the party" — and its freephone number is printed on the back of the magazine. "We refuse to deal with Third Way."



"So you want lower taxes, better healthcare and a Spice Girl to drive you to the polling station?"

says an ungrateful Referendum Party spokesman.

● No cushy merchant bank jobs or cosy peerage for the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, when his time in high office ends. In an interview on the Oxford University student radio Oxygen, Clarke accepts comparisons with that other left-leaning, loose-tongued Tory, Sir Edward Heath: "I expect to be in the House of Commons until I'm so old and doddering that I can't stay any longer," he says, "or until my constituents sling me out."

### And farewell

STUFFED among the stilettoes and trouser-suits in the front row seats of Tomasz Starzewski's fashion show yesterday were the comedians Hale and Pace. Dressed in lurid purple sweatshirts and awkward suits, they are working as Starzewski's assistants for six months, while they make a documentary on fashion.

The courier, who is the darling of such high society dames as Maya Fick, is confident that his charges' dress will improve under his care: "I have told them that black is best for the shows." He is assessing them in six months.



Hale and Pace, however, have much to learn about hemlines. When Starzewski's climactic work appeared — a fur-lined, hooded wedding dress — all Hale could say was that "it would make rather a good igloo."

### We pay you

MALCOLM RIFKIND's recent fundraising party in Hong Kong may not have been worth the trouble. Aside from Labour referring the event to the Nolan Committee on Standards in Public Life, sources within the Hong Kong branch of Conservatives Abroad say that once they had paid for the suite at the shockingly expensive Mandarin Hotel, and cocktails and canapés appropriate to a For-

sign Secretary's visit, the event ended up running a deficit.

● Some hang-dog figures made their way from Earl's Court to Westminster last night, as members of the Commons all-party music group left the Brit Awards early. The 13 Tories, led by Nigel Evans, MP for Ribbles Valley, were hoping some improvised pairing could be arranged for the evening. No, said the Labour lot — so the whole party had to troop back, missing the climax of the show.

### Tight schedule

ADAM COOPER, one of the most promising pairs of tighties at the Royal Ballet, is to leave. Cooper has recently been dancing the lead in Matthew Bourne's terrific all-male *Swan Lake* in the West End. Now that Bourne is taking the show to Los Angeles for eight weeks and possibly on to Broadway, Cooper wants to go with him. When he asked for leave from Covent Garden, however, they said no, so Cooper said goodbye. "It must have been a hard decision to leave the Royal Ballet to undertake the LA season with us," says Bourne. For Cooper, however, it may be for the best. He has been



Cooper: swanning off

tiring of the barre and has his heart set on an acting career. LA could be the perfect platform.

● Robert Fox, the producer, is having trouble casting a London version of the Broadway hit *Masterclass*: "I don't understand why, but we can't find an actor with all the right credentials: looks, acting ability, a great voice and who can hold up opposite Patti Lupone as Maria Callas."

P.H.S





## SOUTHERN DISCOMFORT

Nato needs France to pull back from impossible demands

In 1966 General de Gaulle pulled France out of Nato's integrated military command and expelled the alliance's headquarters from the French capital; in doing so he set a pattern for Western defence which lasted almost 30 years. France maintained a proud, expensive and "independent" system of nuclear and conventional defence. The allies were forced to have France as a "free rider", effectively protected in case of attack but disconnected from the intimate military network which makes Nato tick.

A generation later, closing the gap between France and Nato remains a difficult problem. President Chirac made a brave and sweeping first move in December 1995 by announcing that France was re-entering several Nato bodies, would reintegrate completely if Nato became sufficiently "Europeanised" and was reshaping its armed forces for a new century and new post-Cold War threats. By then, the late President Mitterrand's dream of creating a European military alliance independent of America and based on the EU already lay battered beyond hope of recovery. But President Chirac went further than recognising reality; he acknowledged the legitimacy and centrality of Nato.

This strategy was bold and constructive. But its tactics were inept. American officers automatically hold Nato's supreme military command and the naval Atlantic and Mediterranean commands. A European holds the post of Deputy Supreme Commander and civilian Secretary-General. President Chirac foolishly insisted that Nato could not be considered "Europeanised" unless the Mediterranean command was turned over to a European. In wartime, the assets deployed by the Commander in Naples consist mostly of the US Sixth Fleet and American aircraft based in Italy. The American Administration, backed by Congress, has been wholly consistent in rejecting the French demand as unworkable. Schemes to rotate or split the command, however well meant, made no impact.

By the time of Madeleine Albright's fruitless meetings on this issue in Paris last week, matters had deteriorated in France. The political atmosphere has been soured by the approaching rendezvous with the European single currency. The government is unpopular because of shrinking expenditures. Gaullists are frightened; quite rightly, that monetary union usurps the autonomy of the French State. The belated release of a Franco-German document promising talks between Paris and Bonn on the future of the French nuclear deterrent triggered a cascade of complaint; MPs of both Right and Left argued that France was making concessions everywhere and gaining nothing in return.

The Nato commands matter because retaining American engagement and re-engaging France are both vital. If Europe's nations are to develop any collective capacity to handle security emergencies beyond last-ditch territorial defence, that capacity will have to be organised in the alliance. For that, the alliance must include France. American threats to develop a "European defence identity" inside Nato but without France are bluff. If President Chirac feels obliged to march French officers out of Nato, the informal co-operation which has underpinned deployment in Bosnia will be over.

Compromise must be found. Since the question of Nato's Southern Command is deadlocked, attention must switch to enhancing the powers of Nato's Deputy Supreme Commander, who has been promised command of any operation using purely European forces. If America means to help France to rejoin the alliance, Washington will have to show that a senior French officer can hold this job and that it will amount to real power and influence. If France sticks to its unrealistic and unrealistic demand for the Southern Command, it will signal that the country's leaders are less serious than was previously believed about taking a full part in Europe's emerging defence network. That would be a bad blow on all fronts.

## FIND THE GAPS

The Lib Dems must bite the hands that will feed them

The Liberal Democrats have long been used to serving niche markets. Their difficulty is that the niche keeps changing. It used to be between the two main parties, but as Labour has snuggled up to the Conservatives, the only space left is on the Left. Yesterday Malcolm Bruce, the party's Treasury spokesman, promised to raise the basic rate of income tax by 1p, to set a new top rate of 50 per cent for incomes over £100,000, and to raise the starting threshold to take more people out of tax altogether. As a result, 30 per cent of adults would be worse off; 70 per cent would be better off or see no difference. Mr Bruce's gamble is that enough of the latter will be seduced by the promise of extra money for education.

It would help him if the money were not to be spread so thinly. This £2 billion a year would finance nursery education for all three and four-year-olds, smaller class sizes, more books and equipment, and schools "fit to teach in". That is some programme. Given how friendly the party's education spokesman, Don Foster, has become with the teachers, it would be odd if they did not demand some of the cash for themselves.

This is all theoretical, of course. Every five years or so, the Liberal Democrats have to go through the charade of pretending that they intend to form the next government. Much is unpredictable in politics, but one thing can be said for certain: the next Secretary of State for Education will not be Mr Foster. So the minutiae of Lib Dem policy are academic. The question is: how many seats will they win at the next election, and will they become Labour's partner?

## NATURAL ALLIES

The Israeli President's state visit is as welcome as overdue

President Weizman's arrival today on the first state visit ever paid to Britain by an Israeli leader is overdue recognition of the long association between the two countries. It was the Balfour Declaration of 1917 that gave the Zionists momentum to establish a Jewish homeland. As the mandate authority, Britain was crucially, if bloodily, involved in the struggle for Israeli independence. Much early support, as well as several of the country's political leaders such as Abba Eban, came from Britain. And British influence in the Middle East has been vital in the many attempts, ultimately successful, to break the cycle of violence and establish a dialogue between Israel and its neighbours.

Yet for years relations at the highest level remained cool. There was lingering resentment at the terrorist violence that forced the British out of Palestine; on the Israeli side there was suspicion that the Foreign Office allowed a pro-Arab bias to colour its dealings in the Middle East. Israelis were hurt by the failure of any member of the Royal Family to pay a visit, despite numerous visits to Arab countries and reciprocal hospitality at Buckingham Palace. The acute tensions in the region not only made security a real concern; but they inhibited the spontaneous welcome essential to any successful state visit.

In the past four years, such inhibitions have been melted by Israel's courageous embrace of the peace process. The arms embargo, imposed in 1982, was lifted in 1994.

when Malcolm Rifkind paid the first visit to Israel by a Defence Secretary. Britain became an eager participant in the training of Palestinians that was needed to sustain the Oslo agreements. The Duke of Edinburgh paid a visit to Jerusalem for the ceremony honouring his mother's protection of Jews during the Second World War.

President Weizman, therefore, is coming at a time when relations are at last warm and close. For several months after the election of Benjamin Netanyahu doubts resurfaced over Israel's commitment to the Oslo accords. But since the Hebron agreement these have largely been allayed; Mr Netanyahu was in Amman at the weekend on the kind of visit that has become routine. Indeed, President Weizman himself has played an important part in keeping the peace process on track, inviting Yasser Arafat to visit him at a time when relations between the Palestinians and the Netanyahu Government had all but broken down.

The state visit will be filled with symbols. Mr Weizman's visit to Cranwell will recall his days as a fighter pilot with the RAF. He will also join in unveiling a statue to Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who rescued 100,000 Hungarian Jews in the closing days of the war. Wallenberg had little direct connection with Britain; but the Queen and the Israeli President have the full support of both countries in honouring a man who gave his life for the cause of common humanity.

## Scale of awards against police

From Mr Louis Schaffer

Sir, It is somewhat ironic that, in the same week that the Court of Appeal (Civil Division) curbs the level of exemplary damages to be awarded in actions involving police misconduct ("Thompson v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis", reports, February 20), there commenced in the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) the appeal of 13 men deprived of their liberty for 18 years as the result of deliberate fabrication of evidence by the police.

Lord Woolf ruled that the absolute maximum ever to be awarded for exemplary damages, which are punitive, should be £50,000 and then only if an officer of the rank of superintendent or above was directly involved.

My doubts on the reasonableness of that ruling were confirmed on the following day by reading of the Bridgewater case. By the Master of the Rolls' ruling this case would merit only £25,000 exemplary damages, since no superintendent was involved.

With the greatest respect to Lord Woolf, whom I greatly admire, I believe that his rationale — that it is a windfall for the person wronged and that it would result in funds not being available to be spent by the police in ways to benefit the public — is misguided and sends the wrong message. I doubt whether the Hickey cousins and Jimmy Robinson or, indeed, anyone who has read their case would, in fairness, characterise such an award as a windfall.

In any case involving criminal acts by the police, all the officers can be prosecuted in the criminal courts for perverting justice and their chief officers sued in the civil courts for malicious prosecution.

Criminal prosecutions have proved ineffective. Officers are rarely convicted and the only real sanction is the curbing of funds, so as to persuade chief officers not to allow a culture of tolerance of police misbehaviour to continue. The Commissioner should, in the Thompson case, have been sent away with a flea in his ear and told it was up to him to set his house in order.

So long as police chiefs defend cases where their officers have misbehaved, and not only are the officers not punished but there is no subsequent apology or recognition by their chiefs of their misbehaviour, then — unless there is some swinging financial comeback on those running the police — I am afraid that the exhortation in your leader column today that the Bridgewater miscarriage should never be allowed to happen again will not be achieved.

Yours sincerely,  
LOUIS SCHAFFER,  
10 King's Bench Walk, Temple, EC4.  
February 22.

## Animal traps

From the Acting High Commissioner for Canada

Sir, The full-page advertisement in your issue of February 10, paid for by a number of organisations concerned with animal welfare and attacking the proposal by the European Commission to accept the Agreement on Humane Trapping Standards, should not mislead your readers.

Simply banning all types of leghold traps, which the advertisement advocates, is an arbitrary and ill-considered response to legitimate animal welfare concerns. Rather than focusing on these traps, it has always been Canada's position that the real solution is to establish international standards on humane trapping that cover all situations where wild animals are caught.

The agreement, initiated in December 1996, between Canada, Russia and the European Commission provides that opportunity. For the first time, there is a practical international framework within which real improvements in the welfare of trapped animals could be achieved. Such an agreement would require the banning of all traps that do not meet the agreed scientific standards, including conventional steel-jawed leghold restraining traps and other legholding devices.

An agreement of this kind would be a significant step forward for animal welfare. Rejection of it would be a missed opportunity to improve trapping practices, both internationally and in the EU.

Yours sincerely,  
TOM MACDONALD,  
Canadian High Commissioner,  
Macdonald House,  
1 Grosvenor Square, W1  
February 18.

## Comprehensive cover

From Mr Wolfram Waldner

Sir, Clause 29 of the terms and conditions of *The Times* Lufthansa flight offer (February 22) excludes liability for failure to comply in the event of weather conditions, fire, flood, strike, hurricane, industrial dispute, war, hostilities, political unrest, riot, civil commotion, inevitable accidents, acts of God.

It seems to me that there is very little room for the Almighty left in this catalogue of mishaps.

Yours sincerely,  
WOLFRAM WALDNER,  
20 Grove Street,  
Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.  
February 22.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

## 'Majorite rigidity' on devolution

From Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, OM

Sir, I agree with those who say that in his speech last Thursday, Mr Blair did not answer the West Lothian question (letters, February 15, 21). This is not surprising for it is fundamentally unanswerable. Mr Dailly shot a powerful arrow in the 1970s.

The point was equally unanswerable in relation to Irish Home Rule. In 1885 Gladstone first proposed that the analogous question should be responded to by retaining Irish members at Westminster "for imperial purposes only". Then, when the 1886 Bill came to be drafted, he was persuaded, mainly by Cabinet colleagues, that they ought to be out. By May of that year he was again persuaded that they ought to be in, and announced his willingness to amend the Bill accordingly.

Joseph Chamberlain, the Bill's decisive opponent, moved in precisely the opposite direction. In January he thought the worst possible solution was a parliament in Dublin and Irish members at Westminster. By June he made their exclusion from the imperial parliament his major argument against the Bill.

The 1893 Bill, on the other hand, began with the proposed retention of 80 Irish members at Westminster, but with them excluded from voting on purely English or Scottish questions. The frontier however proved indefensible because not satisfactorily definable, and was abandoned (in favour of giving them full rights) at the committee stage.

There are therefore very respectable precedents — indeed the two successive most dominating parliamentarians of a classic quarter century in the history of the House of Commons — for perplexity on the issue.

This is far from saying that the intricacies of the West Lothian question provide an adequate excuse for immobilism towards the wishes of the non-English components of the British Isles. Can anyone now doubt that with the defeat of Gladstone's home rule Bills there perished the last hope of Anglo-Irish reconciliation within a

British polity?

I do not know whether, had one of these Bills gone through, a loose union would have held. Already it had 200 years of history against it. But I am certain that with their defeat the opposite became inevitable, and has brought in its train much danger and destruction.

The Anglo-Scottish union has been a great deal more securely anchored. But I am for the first time persuaded that, if a Conservative government were to be returned and were to maintain an attitude of uncompromising negativism towards Scotland, and were at the same time to move further to a little-England chauvinism towards Europe, the 1707 union would be in danger.

The pull of the great success of Ireland in Europe should not be underestimated. It is not merely material (although on some counts the Irish national income per head is already above the British, a concept inconceivable a couple of decades ago), but psychologically and nationally liberating in the context of Ireland's regularity and consequent influence, beyond its natural weight in European councils.

I consequently believe that if Majorite rigidity were to persist there is a real danger of Scottish independence within ten years, an outcome which I would regard as a grave misfortune for those on both sides of the border.

Compared with this the West Lothian question, nearly unanswerable although it is, falls into insignificance. The awkwardness would have had to be accepted if Irish home rule had saved the entity of the British Isles. It has been accepted by successive Conservative governments for Northern Ireland. It had better be accepted for Scotland (perhaps with some reduction in the number of Scottish seats at Westminster) if 290 years of mutually beneficial union is not to be put at grave risk.

Yours faithfully,  
ROY JENKINS,  
House of Lords.  
February 24.

## Sex Offenders Bill

From the Director of Liberty

Sir, You reported on February 20 that the number of people to be placed on the sex offenders register by the proposed Sex Offenders Bill threatens its viability. Liberty has been concerned for a considerable time that the register will be unworkable. Blanket registration of sex offenders will mean that the police will not be able to effectively exercise control, and it should be noted that no extra resources are being made available. Additionally, the current proposals will include some consensual gay offences and other individuals who pose no risk to children.

Surely the answer to the problem is the one proposed some time ago by Liberty in its response to this Bill — that automatic inclusion on the register should be dropped. Instead we propose that, at the time of sentencing,

the judge should decide whether or not offenders are a risk to children and only if they are should they be put on the register. The judge will know the details of the facts of the case as well as the previous convictions of the offender and is in the best position to make this assessment.

In sentencing sex offenders the judge will have psychiatric and other reports which would help with this assessment and could also decide at the same time how long the offender should be on the register.

Such a mechanism would not only protect those who are at risk to children from being on the register but also ensure that precious police resources are targeted towards those who are most dangerous.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN WADHAM,  
Director, Liberty,  
21 Tabard Street, SE1  
February 20.

## Dickens statue

From Mrs Sara Lane

Sir, Professor Tony Pountney, chairman of the Charles Dickens fan club at Portsmouth University, appears to think that because the other wishes Dickens expressed in his will have already been denied him, this enables his admirers to contravene yet another firmly-expressed wish by erecting a statue in Portsmouth, where the author was born in 1812 and which he left as a toddler in 1814 (report, February 19).

But two wrongs do not make a right. The International Dickens Fellowship and the Dickens Fellowship, as well as Professor Pountney, all suggest that Dickens wanted his expressed wishes to be disregarded. But what grounds do they have for this?

Is it not more probable that Dickens (like other people who make will) meant exactly what he said in his will as well as disliking humbug and hypocrisy, Dickens had something of a distaste for images and, since the secretary of the Dickens Fellowship invokes *Martin Chuzzlewit*, it is not

worth noting that Dickens's illustrious Phiz consistently depicts Pecksniff surrounded by busts and portraits of himself?

Yours faithfully,  
SARA LANE,  
6 Montagu Square, W1.  
February 19.

From Mr C. C. Dickens

Sir, As a great-great-grandson, who can claim to be head of the Dickens family in the direct line, I am concerned about the proposed statue. Charles Dickens specifically wrote in his will: "on no account make me the subject of any monument, memorial or testimonial whatever."

The International Dickens Fellowship is well admired and old-established but I feel it should adhere to Charles Dickens's expressed wishes and oppose Portsmouth's decision.

Yours faithfully,  
CHRISTOPHER CHARLES DICKENS,  
The Old Rectory, Spofforth,  
Harrogate, North Yorkshire.  
February 19.

## Women in Church

From Mr David Gedge

Sir, The Reverend M. E. Percival (letter, February 19) asks how many men have been appointed minor canons six months after their ordination as priest. Here at Brecon Cathedral it has long been customary for deacons to be appointed minor canons, a year before their ordination to the priesthood.

Some seem to think that a minor canon is a senior position but, at least here in Wales, a minor canon is often no more than a curate attached to a cathedral.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID GEDGE  
(Organist, Brecon Cathedral),  
Garth Cottage,  
29 Pendre, Brecon, Powys.  
February 19.

Business letters, page 29

## Surname usage

From Mr Bruce Andrews

Sir, The subtleties of personal nomenclature prevailed in business as well as academia (letter, February 22). When my father was a junior manager in the 1930s he was addressed by the company's chairman and majority shareholder as Andrews. When he became a senior manager the chairman called him Mr Andrews.

On his advancement to managing director in the late 1940s he was called Andrews once more, a form the chairman used for friends as well as servants and junior employees. When my father became chairman, the ex-chairman — his shareholding reduced — called him Jack, a form he used for a few chosen equals.

My father relished these changes as milestones in his advancement.

Yours faithfully,  
BRUCE ANDREWS,  
4 Watford Close,  
Cranley Road,  
Guildford, Surrey.  
February 23.

## Call for debate on plight of elderly

From Rabbi Julia Neuberger

Sir, The challenge to the political parties from the chairman of the Continuing Care Conference and others (letter, February 19), asking for attention to be given to continuing care, came as welcome reading to those, like myself, who have seen how fear of the future blights the present lives of many elderly, and not so elderly, people.

Whilst many people in their thirties and forties expect to have to pay their way by saving now for insurance for long-term care later on, that cannot be the case for older people, who used to believe that the NHS would look after them from the cradle to the grave.

The London NHS trust which I chair provides many services for elderly people at home and various forms of in-patient care. So do others. But long-term care is largely no longer provided within the NHS and does not come free at the point of use: a change which has happened gradually and to which politicians have not wanted to draw attention because of the cost implications.

This is clearly a time for asking politicians what they intend to do and for holding cross-party and non-partisan discussions about the way forward. It may be one of the many pressing social issues that citizens' juries could be asked to address, as well as a royal commission.

It may also be something that community groups of all kinds have views about. A national discussion of our obligations to the elderly and the standards of care which they should expect is long overdue.

Yours sincerely,  
JULIA NEUBERGER,  
28 Regent's Park Road, NW1.  
February 20.

From Mr John Papworth

Sir, Oh dear, here is another group of well-intentioned people calling for yet another national programme based on government funding.

Please tell them that the care of aged persons (I am one myself) is an emphatically local community and neighbourhood concern and that we forfeit our dignity, our independence, our self-esteem and ultimately our freedom to be responsible citizens if we adopt a cast of mind which assumes we must constantly call on the Government to spoon-feed us in regard to problems we are fully able to resolve for ourselves.

With respect,  
JOHN PAPWORTH  
(Editor), *Fourth World Review*,  
24 Abercorn Place, NW8.  
February 19.

From Mr John Raybould

Sir, The sub-heading on Joe Joseph's piece (February 13) is quite correct: "age" should not be measured in years; and he is right that "history is chock-full of people... who often only began making any noise at all after their peers were drawing pensions".

However, with millions of people like me being made redundant in their fifties or taking voluntary (or involuntary) early retirement, are we not in great danger of losing the very innovative and creative talents that Joe Joseph (and the facts) tell us last well beyond normal retirement age?

Can we really afford as a nation to neglect a whole generation of human capital?

Yours, not over the hill yet,  
JOHN RAYBOULD,  
3 Chestnut Court, High Street,  
Newport, Saffron Walden, Essex.  
February 19.

## Seasonal variations

From Mr John Taylor

Sir, Some years ago American Airlines gave this notice to their passengers:

The Vatican has granted special dispensation to Roman Catholics on American Airlines from the obligation of abstinence on all Fridays and other days of abstinence. On future flights, should you prefer seafood, please make this known at the time of making your reservation. We will be glad to accommodate you.

Perhaps British Airways could ask for a similar dispensation (letters, February 17, 24) if there was any doubt about serving alcohol during Lent.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN TAYLOR,  
Castell Gym,  
Llanbedr, Ruthin, Clwyd.

## Stops and starts

From Prebendary Dr Chad Varah

Sir, Mr Tom Courtenay (letter, February 22) confuses two different uses of the word "train". In itself, it is a locomotive with a number of carriages or wagons in "train". Operationally it means, eg, the 14:48 from Paddington to Oxford.

On arrival, this particular use of the train terminates. It soon becomes a different train, or the collection of coaches or wagons may be shuffled.

The train in its existential sense will terminate only when the locomotive and all its "train" have gone severally to the scrapyard: in about 100 years, on past form.

Yours etc,  
CHAD VARAH  
(Rector), St Stephen Walbrook,  
39 Walbrook, EC4.  
February 23.







## OBITUARIES

## EMILY HAHN

Emily Hahn, American writer and adventurer, died on February 18 aged 92. She was born on January 14, 1905.

In the depths of the Great Depression, Emily Hahn left a \$25-a-week teaching job in New York to run off to the Belgian Congo in search of adventure. A concerned male colleague cautioned her to "be careful": Africa was no place for a woman.

"I still don't know what he meant," Hahn told an interviewer many years later. "Careful" was never part of her vocabulary: given a choice, she always chose the uncertain path.

Hahn, who for many years lived partly in Britain with her husband, the historian Charles R. Boxer, was an adventurer, a feminist, the author of more than fifty books, and a prolific and longstanding contributor to *The New Yorker* magazine. She came to prominence in the 1940s through her writings about China. She had been on both sides of the Atlantic with *The Song Sisters* (1941), a biography of the Middle Kingdom's "first family" of the pre-revolutionary era, and *China to Me* (1944), a candid and irreverent memoir which chronicled Hahn's free-wheeling wartime adventures in the Far East.

Hahn wrote in an extraordinary variety of genres: biography, history, humour, women's issues, travel, cooking, children's literature, fiction and natural history. Her refusal to be pigeonholed may help to explain why, apart from the success of her China books, she never found the mass audience she deserved.

If she was bitter about this, it was never apparent, though she sometimes recalled something her friend and mentor Rebecca West once told her: "If you and I had been born male and had written what we've written, we'd be a lot better-known."

Although Hahn's informal, personalised literary style was distinctly hers, it was also the quintessential New Yorker voice. During her 69-year career as a contributor, she was one of a handful of writers who worked for all four editors of the magazine — Harold Ross, William Shawn, Robert Gottlieb and Tina Brown.

Emily Hahn never wanted to be a writer. She was born into a Jewish-German family in St Louis, Missouri, the seventh of eight children of whom only six survived infancy. Her father, Isaac Newton Hahn, a hardware salesman, was an atheist who read passages from the Bible to his children so that he could point out inconsistencies. Her mother, Hannah, née Schoen, was a committed suffragette who rode a bicycle while wearing bloomers and persisted in her career aspirations even after marriage. The Hahn children



were encouraged to write and think critically from an early age.

In 1922 Emily Hahn caused a furore when she was the first woman to enrol in the faculty of mining engineering at the University of Wisconsin. She had planned to study English literature, but changed her mind when a professor told her that women were "incapable of grasping mechanics or higher mathematics".

After graduating, Hahn worked in turn as an oil geologist, a greetings-card writer and as a guide on horseback expeditions into the New Mexico wilderness. In 1928 she moved to New York to begin writing seriously. Her first *New Yorker* piece, published in the spring of 1929, were actually letters to her brother-in-law in Chicago.

Without her knowledge, he removed the salutations and submitted them to *The New Yorker*.

Hahn's first book appeared in 1930, *Seduction to Absurdum: The Principles and Practices of Seduction* — a *Beginner's Handbook*, was a satirical look at male-female relationships.

In 1931 she ran away to the Belgian Congo, where she spent two years at a Red Cross medical outpost working among African pygmies. She wrote about her experiences in a lively travel book called *Congo Solo: Misadventures Two Degrees North* (1933) and the novel *With Naked Foot* (1934), which took a critical look at European exploitation of Africa and its native population. Both books were in their way ahead of their time, and neither

brought the breakthrough she craved. The same was true of her novel *Affair* (1935), which dealt with alienated youth and the question of abortion.

In the spring of 1935 Hahn ran away again, this time to the Far East. She spent four years in Shanghai, where she scandalised the European community by becoming the concubine of a Chinese poet named Sunway Zau. It was through Zau that she met Communist revolutionaries such as Mao Zedong and Zhou Enlai, and the Soong sisters, about whom she later wrote. She also became addicted to opium.

On the eve of the Pacific war she created yet another scandal by falling in love with Major Charles Boxer, a married British officer who headed Army intelligence in Hong Kong. A few weeks before Pearl Harbor, Hahn gave birth to Boxer's child, a daughter they named Carola.

When Boxer was wounded in the attack on Hong Kong and subsequently became a POW, Hahn convinced Japanese officials she was Eurasian, so as to remain free to carry food parcels to Boxer and other starving POWs. She also got involved in underground relief work.

Hahn and her daughter were repatriated to the US in a 1943 exchange of prisoners. After the war she married Boxer. They subsequently had another daughter, Amanda, who lives and works in London as an actress.

From the late 1940s onwards the Boxers maintained an unconventional marriage: he lived near Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, while she settled in New York. Each summer she travelled to Britain to be with her husband for 91 days — the maximum residency period allowable before she was required to pay British taxes.

Throughout her years at *The New Yorker*, Hahn was one of the magazine's most prolific writers. She often acted as a roving correspondent, filing reports that were as far-flung as they were eclectic: Hahn wrote about everything from angels and rabbis to diamonds and maharajahs.

In her later career, she wrote several books about zoology. Apes were one of her favorite topics: she kept pet gibbons in Hong Kong and Shanghai, where she created a stir by outfitting her simian companion, Mr Mills, in a tailored mink suit.

Emily Hahn went to her New York office each working day until just a few weeks before her death. She continued to be an occasional contributor to that magazine and to others. Her most recent article, about her daughter Amanda's dog, appears in the current issue of the British publication *Dogs Today*.

Hahn is survived by her husband and her two daughters.

## ALAN ELLIOT-SMITH

Alan Elliot-Smith, CBE, Headmaster of Cheltenham College, 1940-51, died on February 10 aged 92. He was born on June 30, 1904.



A NOTABLE headmaster, Alan Elliot-Smith played a leading part in the liberalisation of traditional public school education. As Headmaster of Cheltenham College during and after the Second World War he brought about reforms in customs remaining from the last century. He was among the first to stop the caning of boys by more senior boys and tried to replace imposed discipline by self-discipline.

Known to his friends simply as Elliot, Alan Guy Elliot-Smith spent all his adult life in education. After Charterhouse and Oriel College, Oxford, where he read modern languages, he was appointed an assistant master at Harrow, where he remained for 15 years. His subjects were languages and literature and, although he did not take part in team games, he played tennis and fives. He tried to broaden horizons, taking parties of boys abroad in the holidays and, for several years, he was a committed member of the Harrow Urban District Council.

While at Harrow he married Ruth Kittermaster, whose friendliness and small, brisk person complemented her more imposing husband. Even when young, Elliot-Smith had a commanding presence: tall and well-built, with a high-browed nose and sharply inquiring eyes. He was clearly headmaster material, but when chosen as such by Cheltenham College it was found that he had never been confirmed in the Church of England, and this had to be attended to before he could be named as headmaster in 1940.

Immediately, he faced problems peculiar to wartime, with the help of an outstanding bursar, Rollo Pelly, Cheltenham College had been evacuated to Shrewsbury and had to be returned to its own buildings. There were shortages of food and clothing, so Elliot-Smith dressed his boys in boiler suits and introduced communal catering.

There was a shortage of teaching staff as the younger

masters were called to war service and he was eclectic in his recruitment. His choices included a pacifist (who did not proclaim his beliefs in wartime), women teachers, the Hampstead intellectual Paul Bloomfield and Guy Pocock, who had retired from a career in publishing and at the BBC.

The system of education was changing and Cheltenham's traditional departments — Classical and Military — were phased out. Then and after the war, Elliot-Smith changed teaching methods towards university practice, based on weekly rather than hourly programmes. In wartime the boys were expected to help with domestic work and grow vegetables. He encouraged self-discipline but had to keep a rein on some liberal reform, as when a theatrical revue staged by two of the boys, Lindsay Anderson and Gavin Lambert (the future film director and writer, respectively) was thought to be in bad taste by parents. He introduced sex education by visiting lecturers.

Elliot-Smith's many reforms and much-needed modernisation ran foul of the Old Cheltenhamian Society then dominated by a peppery retired major-general. He waged a rude and damaging war against the headmaster, until rebuked by a more senior Old Cheltenhamian, General Sir Alan Cunningham, who told him: "When your name gets the kind of roar that Elliot's does, I will take some notice of you. Until then, I should be glad if you would dry up."

Five years after the end of the war, Elliot-Smith was regarded as a high-flyer who would probably move to one of

the major public schools, or an Oxbridge college. So his resignation in 1951 and his next choice of employment came as a shock.

At the urging of the British Council, he became headmaster of an Egyptian version of the English public school, Victoria College at Maadi, outside Cairo. Having no children of his own, Elliot-Smith had been feeling restless, wanted a change and saw the job of educating the future leaders of the Middle East as a worthwhile challenge.

The Elliot-Smiths moved all their belongings — furniture, pictures and books — to Egypt in 1952, the year of the anti-British riots in Cairo arising from tensions over the continued British occupation of the Suez Canal Zone. But he persevered and his efforts to promote Anglo-Egyptian relations led to his appointment as CBE. Then came the Suez crisis and the Elliot-Smiths, together with the other expatriates, were summarily expelled. Allowed to take one suitcase each, they had to abandon and leave all their belongings, including his library of four thousand books.

On his return, Elliot-Smith sat on various educational bodies and for a year was the West Africa Committee's representative in Nigeria before being appointed Headmaster of Markham College in Lima, Peru, in 1960. Three years later he returned to England and bought a house in the suburbs of Eastbourne. Here he spent his long retirement, taking up book-binding, sometimes visited by his former pupils and cheered by the positive, cheerful attitude of his wife, who survives him.

## SIR FRANK HARTLEY

Sir Frank Hartley, CBE, Dean of the School of Pharmacy, University of London, 1962-76, died on January 26 aged 86. He was born on January 5, 1911.



AMONG his many notable achievements as a pharmacist, Frank Hartley supervised the early development of the contraceptive pill. As director of research at British Drug Houses he guided the development of the first pill to clinical assessment, though side-effects prevented its being marketed.

There was hardly a facet of pharmacy his career did not touch. He was of an age when entry to the field was through a three-year apprenticeship and evening study for a diploma (as "chemist and druggist"). He then enrolled for the higher diploma of "pharmaceutical chemist". He achieved the latter in 1930 and registered as a pharmacist in 1932.

His bias was towards chemistry and combined an appointment as a research assistant at the School of Pharmacy, then in Bloomsbury Square, with study at Birkbeck College. He took a first in chemistry in 1934 and a PhD in 1940. The route to higher degrees in pharmacy is much simplified now, but the long haul from apprenticeship to doctorate, achieved by working all the hours that were available on little money, gave the pharmaceutical scientists of Hartley's generation unri-

valled experience. It perhaps explains why, at the young age of 29, Hartley was able to join the Dutch firm of Organon as chief chemist of its operation in Britain.

Organon is a major pharmaceutical manufacturer of steroid hormones. Hartley's experience with the firm was later to lead to work with British Drug Houses and his involvement with the earliest generation of oral contraceptive steroids.

War brought a need for greater quantities of antibiotics and led to the formation of the Therapeutic Research Corporation to co-ordinate efforts in antibiotic production; Hartley was appointed its secretary and secretary to the Ministry of Supply's General Penicillin Committee.

At the end of the war he was appointed director of research of British Drug Houses, where he did his work on the contraceptive pill. He was a member of the Committee on Safety of Drugs, the predecessor of the Committee on Safety of Medicines, in 1963-70.

Hartley also made significant contributions to those essential but little understood compendiums of standards of pharmaceuticals such as the *British Pharmacopoeia* ("the BP"), known throughout the world as the repository and guardian of standards of purity and quality of drugs and medicines. He was for a time chairman of the BP Commission. On the *European Pharmacopoeia* he made

considerable inroads into modernising its approach to the development of standards suitable for the 20th century.

In 1962 he moved from industry to academia, succeeding Professor Linnell as Dean of the School of Pharmacy of the University of London. His forte latterly was as a committee man, but one who could shape events, especially as a thoughtful, well-prepared chairman of committees.

He was appointed deputy vice-chancellor of the University in 1973 and in 1976-78 was Vice-Chancellor. He was knighted for his services to pharmacy in 1977, having been appointed CBE in 1970. He received numerous other honours, fellowships and honorary degrees.

In 1962 he became President of the Royal Institute of Chemistry. It was at that time, however, that he lost some

friends who felt that he should have been more partial to his primary discipline when the issue of the "qualified person" was being discussed. In continental Europe every pharmaceutical manufacturer has to have a pharmacist with overall authority for production of medicines — the so-called "qualified person". This is not the case in Britain, where chemists and biologists are allowed to fulfil this statutory function. Colleagues felt that as a pharmacist Hartley might have pressed the claims of his own discipline to bring Britain into line with what is regarded as a sensible continental practice.

After retirement from university service, Hartley still gave of his time and expertise in an elder statesman capacity to the university and its colleges. He maintained his interest in the School of Pharmacy and in the activities of his successor deans. Nerves at the school were jangled in 1982 when a university working party explored its amalgamation with the Chelsea Department of Pharmacy and the relocation of the combined operation to the Tooting site of St George's Hospital and Medical School. Hartley was very much for the marriage, but the working party decided against it.

Hartley's wife Lydia recently predeceased him. He leaves two sons: one, Peter, a canon in the Church of England, and the other, Frank, now Vice-Chancellor of Cranfield.

## THE POLISH REVOLUTION.

(FROM OUR VIENNA CORRESPONDENT.)

VIENNA, FEB. 21. On the 13th inst. some Cossacks, who were in pursuit of two mounted Polish fugitives, violated the Austrian frontier near Ulanow, a small town in the north-east of Russia, the capital of a Galician "circle" of the same name. One of the fugitives, a Roman Catholic priest, fell from his horse, and was wounded by the Cossacks, but both he and his companion managed to reach Ulanow, where they were protected by the local authorities. On the following day a Russian detachment, under the command of a captain, appeared at Ulanow, which is about three English miles from the frontier, and demanded the immediate extradition of the fugitives. A long and angry discussion ensued, and the matter ended by the Russian soldiers being escorted to the frontier by some Austrian gendarmes and Customs-house officers. "The Russians were not disarmed, as the inhabitants of Ulanow displayed an inclination to make short work with the murderers of their Polish brethren." Volleys of stones were thrown at the retreating Russians, who cursed the Austrian authorities, and promised to return and set fire to the town of Ulanow. No demand for satisfaction has yet been made, but it is not to

## ON THIS DAY

February 25, 1863

Between 1772 and 1795 Poland suffered three partitions at the hands of Russia, Prussia and Austria. In 1831 it became a province of Russia; repression brought the Poles to revolt but their ill-armed forces were never a match for the Russian troops.

It was supposed that the Emperor of Austria would allow his territories to be violated with impunity. When the Russians, under Prince Bagration, took possession of Ojcow, which they did without a single blow being struck, they put several of the inhabitants of the place to the sword, and then plundered their houses. Three villages in the neighbourhood of Ojcow had also been sacked, and we in-day learn from Cracow that 40 wounded men, who were being transported from Miechow to that city, were cruelly murdered by the Russians. When the Russians got possession of Sienno-Krzyz, on

the 12th inst., they found Morcau, who was to have been shot for treacherously leading a detachment of sithmen into an ambush, locked up in a room in the convent. The insurgent corps under Langiewicz is still near Staszow (to the south-west of Sandomierz), and is said to have several iron guns. On the 15th inst. the Russians advanced against Langiewicz, who retreated in the direction of Sandomierz. The Russians followed up their supposed advantage, but they fell into an ambush, and were for a time exposed to a very heavy fire of grapeshot. When in disorder, the Russians were attacked by about a thousand sithmen, who did great execution with their ungaily but formidable weapon. It is said that the first troops to enter the town of Miechow on the 15th inst. were Polish lancers. The insurgents under Kucowski, who had 130 killed and 200 wounded, had no artillery. Many Galicians who had gone to Poland to assist their suffering fellow-countrymen, and were forced to return, are now under the surveillance of the police, and they will be brought to trial on a charge of having aided and abetted the subjects of a foreign potentate in an attempt to change the existing order of things. The insurgents are still in Polish Dobrowa, where they are busily employed in casting and boring guns.

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THE TIMES TUESDAY FEBRUARY 25 1997

## The ITF players, their points and their values if you are considering the transfer option

Code	Name	Team	Pos	Points	Value
10101	M Watt	Aberdeen	1.50	-5	-8
10102	N Walker	Aberdeen	1.00	0	-14
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	0	+33
10202	V Bartram	Arsenal	0.75	0	0
10203	J Lukic	Arsenal	0.75	0	0
10301	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.50	+4	+10
10302	M Oakes	Aston Villa	3.00	+4	+3
10401	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	+4
10402	S Given	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0	-1
10501	G Marshall	Celtic	3.00	+4	+21
10502	S Kerr	Celtic	3.00	+4	+21
10601	D Kharine	Chelsea	2.50	0	+10
10602	K Hitchcock	Chelsea	2.00	-1	-27
10603	F Grodas	Chelsea	1.50	+2	-13
10701	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	0.50	0	0
10702	J Fylan	Coventry City	1.00	0	0
10801	M Taylor	Derby County	1.00	-10	-17
10802	R Houtt	Derby County	0.50	0	-4
10901	A Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50	0	-10
10902	L Key	Dundee United	0.50	+5	+4
11001	I Westwater	Durham	2.50	0	-22
11101	N Southall	Everton	2.50	+5	+4
11102	P Gerrard	Everton	2.00	-3	-13
11201	G Rousset	Hibernian	1.50	-8	-37
11301	J Leighton	Hibernian	1.50	-8	-37
11401	D Lakovic	Kilmarnock	1.50	0	+5
11501	M Beesley	Leeds United	0.25	0	0
11502	P Evans	Leeds United	2.50	-2	-19
11503	N Marlyn	Leeds United	1.00	0	-6
11601	K Poole	Leicester City	1.00	0	-6
11602	K Kellar	Leicester City	5.00	+10	+33
11701	D James	Liverpool	0.50	0	0
11702	A Warner	Liverpool	5.00	-2	-8
11801	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	1.00	0	+5
11802	R van der Gouw	Manchester United	1.50	0	-20
11901	G Walsh	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-23
11902	A Miller	Middlesbrough	1.50	-2	-2
11903	B Roberts	Middlesbrough	1.50	-2	-28
12001	S Howie	Motherwell	4.00	+5	+10
12101	S Hlop	Newcastle United	3.00	0	0
12102	P Snelke	Newcastle United	2.50	+5	-32
12201	M Crossley	Nottingham Forest	0.75	0	0
12202	A Fitts	Nottingham Forest	0.50	0	-37
12301	T Wright	Nottingham Forest	0.50	0	-37
12302	S Thomson	Raith Rovers	5.00	-1	+39
12401	A Goram	Rangers	2.00	-8	+10
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
12502	M Clarke	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0	-28
12601	D Beasant	Sheff Wed	0.25	0	-2
12602	N Miles	Sheff Wed	1.00	0	-2
12701	M Taylor	Sheff Wed	0.50	-1	-17
12702	L Perez	Sunderland	1.00	0	+9
11803	A Coton	Sunderland	3.50	0	-7
12801	I Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
12802	E Baardse	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	-21
12901	L Miklos	West Ham United	0.50	0	+5
12902	S Maitland	West Ham United	1.00	0	+5
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0
13002	P Heald	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0



Collymore was ineffective against Blackburn Rovers, but his display against Leeds United gained him six points

Code	Name	Team	Pos	Points	Value
30303	R Scimeca	Aston Villa	1.00	+1	+24
30401	C Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	+2	+28
30402	I Pearce	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	-3
30403	C Coleman	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0	+2
30404	N Markor	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	+3	+28
30501	T Boyd	Celtic	1.50	+3	+25
30502	M MacGregor	Celtic	3.50	-1	-12
30503	A Stubbs	Celtic	3.00	0	+1
30504	B O'Neill	Celtic	2.50	0	+1
30601	M Dubeur	Chelsea	2.50	0	+20
30602	F Leboeur	Chelsea	2.00	0	-8
30603	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	0	+3
30604	D Lee	Chelsea	1.50	0	+4
30605	A Myers	Chelsea	1.50	0	+10
30606	E Johnson	Chelsea	2.50	0	+6
30701	L Walsh	Coventry City	2.00	+3	+11
30702	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	+3	+11
30703	G Breen	Coventry City	1.50	0	0
30704	A Evtushok	Coventry City	2.50	-1	-2
30801	I Stimpac	Derby County	1.00	0	0
30802	D Wassall	Derby County	2.50	-4	+6
30803	P McGrath	Derby County	1.00	0	-4
30804	L Lauren	Derby County	1.00	0	-4
30901	M Carbone	Derby County	1.00	-1	-47
30902	S Pressley	Dundee United	0.75	+4	0
31001	M Millar	Durham	0.75	0	-17
31002	I den Bieman	Durham	2.50	+4	+14
31101	D Unsworth	Everton	2.50	+4	+11
31102	D Watson	Everton	2.00	+4	+8
31103	C Short	Everton	1.00	0	+28
31201	R McPherson	Hibernian	0.50	0	+4
31202	P Ritchie	Hibernian	0.50	0	+4
31301	J McLaughlin	Hibernian	0.75	0	+7
31302	B Welsh	Hibernian	1.00	-2	-3
31401	G Hunter	Hibernian	0.50	0	-19
31402	S Dennis	Kilmarnock	1.00	-2	-3
31501	M Heilly	Kilmarnock	0.75	-2	-20
31502	R Monaghan	Kilmarnock	2.50	0	+20
31601	J Wetherall	Leeds United	1.00	0	+20
31602	R Johnson	Leeds United	1.00	0	+20
31701	L Radebe	Leeds United	0.50	0	0
31702	J Pemberton	Leeds United	2.00	0	+11
31801	R Molenaar	Leeds United	1.00	-1	-7
31802	S Walsh	Leeds United	1.00	-1	-9
31901	J Watts	Leeds United	0.50	0	+6
31902	P Keenmark	Leeds United	1.00	0	0
32001	S Prior	Leeds United	0.50	0	-2
32002	M Elliott	Leeds United	3.50	0	+24
32101	P Babb	Liverpool	3.50	+8	+35
32102	M Wright	Liverpool	3.00	0	+14
32201	D Mullock	Liverpool	1.00	+8	+31
32202	D Kvarme	Liverpool	2.00	0	+9
32301	G Pallister	Manchester United	3.00	0	+28
32302	D May	Manchester United	2.50	0	+25
32401	R Johnson	Manchester United	1.50	0	-9
32402	S Vickers	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-10
32501	D Whyte	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	0
32502	P Whelan	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-6
32601	G Festa	Motherwell	0.75	+3	+8
32602	M van der Gaag	Motherwell	4.50	+4	+18
32701	P Albert	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+7
32702	S Howey	Newcastle United	3.00	+4	+16
32801	C Cooper	Nottingham Forest	3.00	0	+11
32802	S Chellie	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	-5
32901	S Blatherwick	Nottingham Forest	0.50	0	-3
33001	D Craig	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	0
33002	G Mitchell	Raith Rovers	3.50	+3	+57
33101	R Gough	Rangers	3.00	0	-1
33201	A McLaren	Rangers	3.50	0	+11
33202	J McKendrick	Rangers	2.00	-3	-11
33301	J Newsome	Sheff Wed	1.50	-1	-32
33401	D Walker	Sheff Wed	0.25	0	0
33402	K Linighan	Sheff Wed	1.50	-3	-16
33501	K Monkou	Sheff Wed	1.00	-2	-17
33601	A Hallam	Sheff Wed	0.50	0	0
33602	C Dryden	Sheff Wed	0.50	0	-14
33701	C Lundkvam	Sheff Wed	1.50	-2	-22
33801	U van Goober	Sheff Wed	1.00	0	+23
33901	A McVie	Sunderland	1.00	-1	-10
34001	K Ball	Sunderland	0.50	0	+22
34101	R Ord	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+1
34201	J Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+12
34301	C Caldwell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	0
34401	K Abbott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	-6
34501	G Macburt	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	-6
34601	S Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00	0	-1
34701	R Yeag	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+8
34801	S Bliff	West Ham United	2.50	0	+8
34901	M Rieper	West Ham United	2.00	0	-2
35001	S Potts	West Ham United	1.50	0	0
35101	R Hall	West Ham United	0.50	0	+2
35201	R Ferdinand	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0
35301	A Reeves	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
35401	C Pearce	Wimbledon	0.50	+4	+15
35501	D Blackwell	Wimbledon	0.50	0	+14
35601	M Allister	Wimbledon	0.25	0	0
35701	S Fitzgerald	Wimbledon	0.25	0	0

Code	Name	Team	Pos	Points	Value
42906	R Slater	Southampton	1.00	0	+7
42907	M Oakley	Southampton	0.50	0	+22
42908	P Tisdale	Southampton	0.50	0	0
42909	M Robinson	Southampton	1.00	+1	+20
42910	E Berkovic	Southampton	2.50	+1	+30
42911	M Gray	Sunderland	1.50	0	+18
42912	S Agnew	Sunderland	1.50	-1	-10
42913	A Rase	Sunderland	0.75	+1	+33
42914	P Bracewell	Sunderland	1.00	+1	+9
42915	M Smith	Tottenham Hotspur	5.50	0	+10
42916	D Anderson	Tottenham Hotspur	4.00	0	+23
42917	R Fox	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	+2
42918	D Howells	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	+2
42919	I Dorell	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	0	+32
42920	A Sinton	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	0	+3
42921	R Rosenthal	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+31
42922	A Nielsen	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	+26
42923	I Bishop	West Ham United	2.00	0	+34
42924	M Hughes	West Ham United	1.50	0	+17
42925	C Williams	West Ham United	1.50	0	+15
42926	J Moncur	West Ham United	0.25	0	+11
42927	S Lazaridis	West Ham United	4.00	+2	+53
43001	R Earle	Wimbledon	2.50	0	+36
43002	O Leonhardsen	Wimbledon	2.00	+2	+55
43003	M Gayle	Wimbledon	1.50	+3	+53
43004	N Ardley	Wimbledon	0.50	0	0
43005	S Castledine	Wimbledon	0.25	+2	+3
43007	P Fear	Wimbledon	0.25	+2	+3

	Code	Name	Team	Pos	Points	Value
	50101	S Booth	Aberdeen		4.50	+1 +
	50102	D Shearer	Aberdeen		3.00	0 0
	50103	W Dodds	Aberdeen		5.00	+1 +
	50201	I Wright	Arsenal		7.00	+1 +
	50202	D Bergkamp	Arsenal		0.50	+3 +
	50203	C Sutton	Arsenal		0.50	+2 +
	50301	O Yorke	Aston Villa		5.00	+2 +
	50302	S Milosevic	Aston Villa		4.00	0 0
	50303	T Johnson	Aston Villa		2.00	0 0
+3	50401	J Joachim	Blackburn Rovers		3.00	+1 +
+6	50402	K Gallacher	Blackburn Rovers		2.50	+1 +
+27	50403	C Sutton	Blackburn Rovers		2.50	0 0
+33	50404	G Fenton	Blackburn Rovers		1.50	0 0
+25	50406	N Gudmundsson	Blackburn Rovers		7.00	0 0
+22	50501	P van Hooijdonk	Celtic		6.00	+3 +
+43	50502	J Cadete	Celtic		5.00	0 0
+7	50601	G Vialli	Chelsea		4.00	+1 +
+19	50602	M Hughes	Chelsea		0.50	0 0
+27	50603	M Stein	Chelsea		5.00	+3 +
+25	50606	G Zola	Chelsea		6.00	0 0
+16	50701	N Whelan	Coventry City		5.00	+1 +
+43	50702	D Dublin	Coventry City		3.00	+1 +
0	50703	P Ndlovu	Coventry City		0.50	+2 +
0	52105	D Huckerby	Derby County		3.00	+7 +
+31	50801	D Sturridge	Derby County		2.00	0 0
+47	50803	M Gabbadini	Derby County		2.00	+2 +
+25	50804	A Ward	Derby County		1.00	0 0
+29	50904	R Williams	Durham United		3.00	+1 +
+28	50903	K Olafsson	Durham United		2.00	0 0
+26	51001	A Moore	Durham United		2.00	+1 +
0	51002	S Petrie	Durham United		6.00	+2 +
0	51101	D Ferguson	Everton		4.00	+1 +
+1	51101	N Barmby	Everton		3.00	+1 +
+39	51102	G Stuart	Everton		2.00	0 0
0	51104	P Rideout	Everton		1.50	0 0
+13	51105	M Branch	Everton		3.50	+1 +
+10	51201	J Robertson	Everton		3.50	+1 +
+12	51202	C Cameron	Everton		3.50	0 0
+28	51203	D Beckett	Hibernian		3.00	0 0
+28	51301	K Wright	Hibernian		3.00	0 0
+12	51302	D Jackson	Hibernian		3.00	+1 +
+144	51401	P Wright	Kilmarnock		7.00	0 0
0	51501	A Yeboah	Leeds United		1.50	+1 +
+19	51502	I Rush	Leeds United		2.00	0 0
0	51604	B Deane	Leeds United		2.50	0 0
+21	51601	S Claridge	Leeds United		2.00	0 0
+2	51602	E Heskey	Leeds United		0.75	+1 +
+24	51603	M Robins	Leeds United		0.75	+1 +
+28	51604	I Marshall	Leeds United		9.00	0 0
+24	51701	R Fowler	Liverpool		8.00	0 0
+20	51702	S Cantona	Manchester United		8.50	0 0
+25	51801	E Scholes	Manchester United		5.00	0 0
0	51802	A Cole	Manchester United		4.50	+1 +
+7	51803	O G Solskjaer	Manchester United		3.00	0 0
+11	51905	F Ravanelli	Middlesbrough		5.00	0 0
+2	51906	M Beck	Middlesbrough		2.50	0 0
+7	51908	M Beak	Motherwell		2.00	0 0
+126	52001	T Coyne	Motherwell		1.50	0 0
0	52002	O Coyne	Motherwell		1.50	0 0
0	52002	D Arnott	Motherwell		1.00	0 0
0	52401	A Shearer	Newcastle United		8.50	0 0
0	52101	L Ferdinand	Newcastle United		6.50	0 0
+124	52102	F Asprilla	Newcastle United		5.00	0 0
0	52103	P Beardsley	Nottingham Forest		3.50	0 0
0	52201	D Saunders	Nottingham Forest		3.00	0 0
+54	52202	P Beardsley	Nottingham Forest		1.50	0 0
0	52203	P McGreggor	Nottingham Forest		1.50	0 0
0	52204	K Campbell	Nottingham Forest		1.50	0 0
+129	52205	J Lee	Nottingham Forest		0.50	0 0
+243	52206	S Howe	Nottingham Forest		0.50	0 0
+117	52207	A Sienitz	Nottingham Forest		2.00	0 0
0	52301	P Beardsley	Raith Rovers		6.00	0 0
0	52401	G Durie	Rangers		5.00	0 0
+8	52402	E Andersson	Rangers		6.00	0 0
0	52403	A McColst	Rangers		5.00	0 0
+1	52404	P van Vossen	Rangers		6.00	0 0
0	52405	S Rozental	Rangers		4.00	0 0
+124	52501	D Hirst	Sheffield Wednesday		2.50	0 0
0	52502	A Booth	Sheffield Wednesday		2.50	0 0
0	52503	G Whittingham	Sheffield Wednesday		2.50	0 0
+44	52504	O Donaldson	Sheffield Wednesday		0.50	0 0
+38	52506	R Humphreys	Sheffield Wednesday		2.00	0 0
+17	52601	M Le Tissier	Southampton		7.00	0 0
+44	52605	E Ostenstad	Sunderland		1.00	0 0
0	52701	P Stewart	Sunderland		1.00	0 0
0	52702	C Richardson	Sunderland		1.00	0 0
0	52703	D Kelly	Sunderland		0.50	0 0
+23	52704	L Howey	Sunderland		0.50	0 0
+243	52705	M Bridges	Sunderland		0.50	0 0
0	52706	N Quinn	Sunderland		3.00	0 0
+49	52801	C Sheeringham	Tottenham Hotspur		7.00	0 0
+127	52802	C Armstrong	Tottenham Hotspur		7.00	0 0
0	52803	R Allen	Tottenham Hotspur		3.00	0 0
0	52804	S Iversen	Tottenham Hotspur		2.00	0 0
0	52901	J Hartson	Tottenham Hotspur		2.00	0 0
0	52902	I Dowle	West Ham United		2.00	0 0
0	52903	D Hargreaves	West Ham United		2.00	0 0
0	52904	C Elliott	Wimbledon		1.00	0 0
0	53001	E Ekoku	Wimbledon		1.00	0 0
0	53002	J Goodman	Wimbledon		1.00	0 0
0	53003	A Clark	Wimbledon		1.00	0 0
0	53004	J Elia	Wimbledon		1.00	0 0
0	53005	C Sheeringham	Wimbledon		1.00	0 0
+125	53006	A Sheeringham	Wimbledon		1.00	0 0







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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 25 1997

## Yorkshire Electricity accepts £1.5bn US offer



Hampson, left, and Brunetti

**YORKSHIRE ELECTRICITY** yesterday accepted a £1.5 billion takeover offer from an American energy group. The bid puts seven regional electricity companies under US control and leaves Southern Electric as the only independent player in the industry.

Yorkshire Holdings, a company equally owned by American Electric Power of Ohio and Public Service of Colorado, offered 927p in cash for Yorkshire, which represents a premium of 13.3 per cent to the shares' Friday closing price. Analysts believe that the bid is fairly valued; they do not expect a rival takeover offer.

The shares closed yesterday at 882p, up 63½p. Analysts said that the discount to the

offer price reflects investors' fears that the takeover may not receive approval before the general election. The Department of Trade and Industry, acting on advice from the Office of Fair Trading, usually approves or rejects a deal within 35 working days of the launch of an offer.

American Electric and Public Services moved quickly once they decided to go for Yorkshire. Yorkshire Holdings, their company, was incorporated on February 14 and first approached Yorkshire Electricity, led by Christopher Hampson, chairman, last Thursday. With the election looming, the Americans realised they could not risk waiting.

American Electric and Public Services

were each hunting for a regional electricity company. In December, acting on the advice of Merrill Lynch, the Wall Street investment firm, they pooled resources. By then Yorkshire and Southern were the only two takeover options.

A Merrill banker said that Southern, with a market capitalisation of almost £2 billion against Yorkshire's £1.3 billion, was simply too big.

The takeover price represents a multiple of 6.6 times Yorkshire's cashflow in the year to March 31, 1996, and 11.3 times its earnings per share. The bid will be 75 per cent financed by debt and 25 per cent by equity. Yorkshire shareholders will retain the right to receive the interim dividend of 15.8p, to be paid on March 25.

The American companies launched their offer partly because they wanted to expand beyond the highly competitive US market and partly because they believe they can introduce new services and businesses to Yorkshire. Wayne Brunetti, president of Public Services, an electricity and gas utility with three million customers in Colorado and Wyoming, said options include building up Yorkshire's gas supply division and providing "one-stop shopping and billing for various services. These might include telephony — Yorkshire owns about 20 per cent of Ionica, the wireless phone company — and marketing and billing services for satellite-TV operators.

Pennington, page 27

### BUSINESS TODAY

#### STOCK MARKET TODAY

FTSE 100	4231.1	(-5.7)
Yield	3.82%	
FTSE All share	2114.52	(-0.53)
Nikkei	18088.89	(-37.55)
New York		
Dow Jones	8975.87	(+44.25)
S&P Composite	805.25	(+3.58)

#### US RATE

Federal Funds	5.00%	(5.00%)
Long Bond	98.1%	(98.1%)
Field	5.66%	(5.64%)

#### LONDON MONEY

3-month Interbank	6.00%	(6.00%)
Libor long call		
Future (May)	113	(113.4)

#### STERLING

New York	1.6337	(1.6168)
London		
\$	1.6335	(1.6182)
DM	2.2721	(2.2725)
FF	5.2577	(5.2525)
Sfr	2.3751	(2.3739)
Yen	166.24	(166.25)
\$ Index	97.7	(97.7)

#### US DOLLAR

London	1.6729	(1.6803)
DM	5.6445	(5.7020)
FF	1.4870	(1.4715)
Yen	122.17	(123.25)
\$ Index	103.0	(103.0)

#### Tokyo close Yen 122.40

#### NORTH SEA OIL

Brut 15-day (May)	\$19.30	(\$19.50)
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#### GOLD

London close	\$362.85	(\$363.75)
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\* denotes midday trading price

## SB agrees \$325m American settlement

By ERIC REGULY

**SMITHKLINE** Beecham, Britain's second-largest pharmaceuticals group, agreed yesterday to pay \$325 million to settle a long-running dispute with American regulators.

SmithKline reached the settlement with the Department of Justice and the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Health, which had accused the company's Clinical Laboratories division of charging for blood and urine tests that were either unauthorised or medically unnecessary between 1989 and 1996.

The settlement was covered by a \$250 million contingent liability reserve taken in 1995. Nevertheless, the amount was higher than some analysts had forecast and the shares lost 11½p, to 910½p.

Jan Leschly, chief executive, said: "It is important to understand that SmithKline never intentionally violated any laws... Although we believe we have strong defences, our decision to settle the case was driven by the enormous potential costs and uncertainties connected with lengthy litigation. It was simply too great a risk."

He blamed "ambiguities" in health and regulatory guidelines for Clinical Laboratories' charging practices. The practices were exposed by an employee, who leaked the information to Medicare, one of the US Government's healthcare services.

Other laboratory companies fell foul of the Government as well. In 1994, National Medical Enterprise paid \$385 million to settle overcharging claims. Last year, Laboratory Corporation paid \$302 million in a settlement.

The changes in the system for government reimbursement for clinical tests has raised speculation that SmithKline will sell Clinical Laboratories. Sales growth and profit growth have been slow. In the last financial year, the division reported

sales of £840 million, up 2 per cent, and trading profit of £85 million, up 7 per cent. The sales growth, however, was entirely due to volume instead of price increases, and the profit growth largely due to cost-cutting.

SmithKline believes that a turnaround at Clinical Laboratories is in place. The improvement in the second half of last year marks the first time that trading profit increased since the second quarter of 1995.

Mr Leschly said that Clinical Laboratories fits the company's strategy of "total disease management" and will remain in the group portfolio.

SmithKline's other divisions include pharmaceuticals, consumer healthcare products and managed healthcare.

Tadatsaka Yamada, president of SmithKline healthcare services, said: "We continue to work with the Government and other third-party providers to arrive at clear, unambiguous guidelines to ensure that, in the future, disputes of this nature can be resolved cooperatively, in a fair and expeditious manner."

The Clinical Laboratories settlement removes a dark cloud over SmithKline. Analysts are now focusing their attentions on the effect of the rise of starting on the company's profits, and the outlook for Diversified Pharmaceuticals Service, the managed care business.

SmithKline said that pre-tax profits this year could fall by as much as 5 per cent if starting remains at year-end levels. DPS, meanwhile, is not earning profits. SmithKline has invested heavily in DPS and believes that the service could be replicated outside of the US.

In spite of SmithKline Beecham's concern about the strength of sterling the company pleased investors last week by announcing a 14 per cent rise in 1996 profits, to £1.55 billion.



Xstatic: Mike Blackburn, the Halifax chief executive, left, with Jon Foulds, chairman, at the Sheffield Arena for yesterday's special meeting

## Full steam ahead for Halifax

By MARIANNE CURRY  
AND CAROLINE MERRILL

AN overwhelming majority of Halifax members have voted in favour of the building society's proposed conversion to a bank in June.

Of the eligible members who voted, more than 97 per cent, or 5.15 million, of investing members voted in favour, while 110,000 voted against. The total number of eligible investing members was 6.96 million.

The Halifax needed a simple majority of borrowers to

vote in favour. In the event, 1.52 million voted in favour and 40,000 voted against, out of a total of 2.29 million eligible borrowing members.

Almost 1,100 Halifax members who had at least £100 in their account at November 25, 1994, and February 24, 1997, and to qualifying borrowers. The variable distribution will be paid to those members who had more than £1,000 at these two dates.

Many of those who attended the meeting spoke passionately about their wish for Halifax to remain a mutual society,

citing their belief that mutuals gave better rates to savers and borrowers. Other questions from the floor focused on the remuneration packages of board members following conversion and the problems of disabled savers who do not run their own accounts.

A Private Member's Bill currently being piloted through Parliament by Douglas French, the Conservative MP, proposes that disabled people would have the same rights as other members. However, even if the Bill is successful, it will not be retro-

spective and will not affect the Halifax.

Jon Foulds, chairman of the Halifax, said he was aware that it is "a sensitive and emotive issue". He said: "I know that the question of trustee accounts and joint accounts has come to the fore with disabled people whose savings are looked after by relatives or carers. In many cases carers acting as trustees for a number of people will receive more shares, and therefore have more to distribute."

Among the opponents of the conversion were Peter Judge and Serge Lourie, co-founders of the Halifax Action Group. In an angry exchange, Mr Foulds accused Mr Judge of presenting a "lopsided" argument when Mr Judge claimed the Halifax board was privatising the society and "selling it off cheap".

The Halifax is the largest of the five building societies converting to banks this year. It will become the UK's fifth-largest bank after Natwest, HSBC, Lloyds TSB and Barclays. Some believe the Halifax can benefit from the increase in the value put on the banking sector as a whole, pushing the average handout to as high as £1,500.

## Alliance's market share drops

By ROBERT MULLER

**ALLIANCE & LEICESTER**, the building society that plans to make its stock market debut on April 21, has seen its share of the home loans market decline sharply in the face of fierce competition from rivals.

A&L, which is expected to be valued at around £3 billion and give 2.4 million qualifying savers and borrowers 250 free shares worth an average of £1,085, spent £143 million in

a bid to attract new mortgage business last year. Nevertheless, its share of the home loans market fell to 3.5 per cent from 5.2 per cent in 1995 and gross mortgage lending declined by £700 million to £2.2 billion.

Peter White, chief executive, who yesterday reported record annual pre-tax profits of £306 million compared with £287 million in 1995, said the society had chosen not to "buy" market share with special discounts and cashbacks

in the first half of 1996 but had seen its share increase in the fourth quarter as more normal pricing conditions returned.

In the A&L group, Girobank, the society's commercial banking subsidiary which processed £73 billion of cash and cheques, dipped to £63 million, down £2 million on the previous year.

The personal banking arm, which includes current accounts, personal loans and credit cards, contributed pre-

tax profits of £64 million against £60 million in 1995. Mr White said that the life and unit-trust business, launched last March, was already profitable.

After the flotation, which is expected to cost up to £58 million and still needs final clearance from the Building Societies Commission, the newest recruit to the banking sector could be looking to acquire businesses in the long-term healthcare and life markets.

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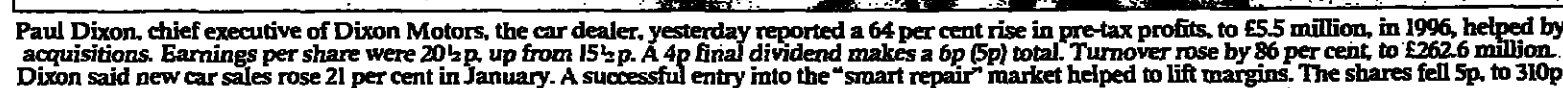
JOHN CHARCOL

Total Example: a £40,000 interest only mortgage (interest £200) on a property valued at £75,000, repaying on 28 February 1997, would cost 25 years 1 year monthly repayments of £297.38. 200 gross monthly repayments of £297.38 would result in a total of £59,476. Total amount payable is £11,976.28, calculated to include an arrangement fee of £295, 1100 legal fees, £170 valuation fee, £25 best mortgage fee and £55 stamp duty. The APR is 6.7% for an interest only loan over 25 years and assumes the borrower will receive a 6.7% APR for the remainder of the term, in practice the APR may differ from that assumed. Interest may be required, loans subject to status, type and value of property. APR may vary. Limited bank facilities. John Charcol is a regulated company by the Financial Services Authority. The FSA does not regulate mortgage brokers. Mortgage quotations are subject to credit checks. Credit history may be checked. To maintain the quality of our service we may occasionally refer you to the nearest John Charcol branch and mortgage broker.

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مکذا من رلاصل

**Estates & General**, the property investment company, is returning to the dividend list with a 0.4p payment after pre-tax profits of £1.6 million (£1.8 million loss), including £800,000 from a legal settlement.



**By PAUL DURMAN**

**THE** demerger of Hanson into four separate companies has so far cost investors about a quarter of the value of their investment.

The year-long break-up of the conglomerate was completed yesterday with the first trading in The Energy Group and "new" Hanson, the building materials businesses that will continue to be grouped

under the parent company's name. Shares in Energy, which owns the former Eastern Electricity as well as the Peabody coal mining business, leapt 43½p, to 568½p, while "new" Hanson closed 1½p higher, at 281½p.

But even after these rises, the equivalent value of one "old" Hanson share has fallen to 151.6p, from 204½p in January last year. Shareholders now hold shares in four

companies: Hanson, Energy, Imperial Tobacco and the US-listed Millennium Chemicals.

After adjusting for the demerger and share consolidations, Hanson is worth 35.2p, Energy 56.8p, Imperial 4.3p and Millennium 16.6p. Christopher Collins, deputy chairman of Hanson, said: "We feel that the time for judging the demerger process is a year or so down the track."

In the three months to

December 31, Hanson made pre-tax profits of £157 million, with Energy contributing £138 million of £178 million of operating profits. In the same period in 1995, Hanson made a pre-tax profit of £248 million, although this included £205 million from businesses sold or demerged.

The result from Energy, headed by Derek Bonham, who retired from the Hanson board yesterday, was an im-

provement from £100 million in the previous year. Its quarterly sales rose from £959 million to £1.2 billion.

While profits from coal were static at £25 million, the contribution from power more than doubled, to £57 million (£23 million), on revenues 51 per cent higher at £759 million. Energy said that the improvement was due mainly to the 5,900 megawatts of coal-fired capacity that Eastern has controlled since last July.

Hanson Brick, the ARC aggregates business and their other activities that make up "new" Hanson, lifted their combined operating profits 11 per cent, to £40 million, on quarterly sales of £578 million (£549 million). The revival in the UK housing market helped Hanson Brick, whose profits increased by 50 per cent to £6 million. ARC made an unchanged £11 million.

**Temps, page 28**

NET retail unit trust sales fell by £83 million in January to £323 million while personal equity plans (Pepps) fared little better. The Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds (Aunif) said yesterday that net Pepp sales of £278 million in January were 19 million lower than in December and corporate bond Pepps had net sales of £66 million compared with £88 million the previous month. Funds under management rose to £138 billion from £132 billion.

Audit said that both private and institutional investors committed the largest proportion of funds to two UK sectors — UK Growth and UK Growth and Income. The retail inflow into these two sectors, mainly supported by Pep sales, topped £143 million. Unit trusts investing in overseas markets did not fare so well. Retail inflows into the international sector were at their lowest level for two years and there was a net outflow of \$96 million from Japanese funds.

**CAPITAL** spending by manufacturing industries in the fourth quarter was 4.6 per cent higher than in the previous three months but 8.6 per cent lower than the fourth quarter of 1995, according to provisional figures published yesterday by the Office for National Statistics. Capital spending in the services sector was up 2 per cent from the previous quarter while the construction sector's investment was up 74 per cent. Fourth-quarter stocks figures, out yesterday, showed a surprising £500 million rise in manufacturers' stocks.

**BRITISH MIDLAND**, the UK's second-largest airline that has been expanding on European routes, is to separate from several smaller partner carriers that concentrate on domestic services. The smaller carriers, comprising British Regional Airlines, Manx Airlines, Loganair, and Business Air, are being demerged from Airlines of Britain Holdings, their parent company. SAS Scandinavian Airlines holds a 40 per cent interest in the group and will dispose of its stake in the smaller airlines while keeping 40 per cent of British Midland.

THE National Grid has agreed to increase its holding in Citelec, the company with a controlling interest in Transener, the operator of the Argentine electricity transmission system, from 15 per cent to about 40 per cent. The extra investment will cost between \$40 million and \$50 million. The move is part of the Grid's expansion plans overseas and comes after the Argentine Government decided to reduce the number of minority shareholders in Citelec. The Grid will now be one of two main shareholders.

**COMMUNITY Hospitals Group (CHG)**, the hospital services company, is seeking a buyer for its 16 nursing homes, with 800 beds. They are expected to raise around £25 million. Yesterday CHG reported pre-tax profits of £4.95 million for the half year to December 31, up from £3.88 million, with earnings of 9.8p a share (3p). The interim dividend rises to 3.9p a share from 3.4p. The company said its "best view" for the full year envisaged pre-tax profits of between £12.5 million and £13 million, against £10.66 million previously.

FITCH, the design consultancy, is returning to the dividend list after a five-year absence. Shareholders will receive 0.5p a share after an increase in pre-tax profits to £1.84 million, from £1.53 million in the year to December 31 last year. Earnings were 3.6p a share, up from 2.8p. Turnover rose to £19.5 million from £16.4 million. America, accounting for 73 per cent of turnover, suffered a 3.3 per cent fall in profits to £1.39 million after new office start-up costs of £200,000. In the UK, profits recovered by 67.4 per cent to £914,000.

**AMEY**, the UK's fourth largest roadbuilder, has won an £85 million contract to manage 290 miles of motorway in the Home Counties. The contract, which is for three years with an option to extend it by a further year, covers all motorways and trunk roads in Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex. The area includes the northern half of the M25, the M4 as far as Swindon and parts of the M1 and M11. AMEY already manages more than 1,000 miles of road for the Highways Agency and local councils.

**SIMON Engineering** is selling the industrial businesses of its access division to **Torex Corporation**, of America, for \$90 million. The company said the disposal will enable Simon to repay a significant amount of debt, including all outstanding US loan notes, and to restructure its banking arrangements, said **Maurice Dixon**, chief executive. In 1995, the businesses being sold earned pre-tax profits of £3.4 million on turnover of £111.8 million. Net assets were £34.4 million at December 31, 1995.

SNCF, the French state-owned railway system, had a deficit of FF15.2 billion last year or FF2.7 billion above a revised autumn budget. In 1995, SNCF incurred a loss of FF16.6 billion and, following the same accounting calculations, would have incurred a 1996 loss of FF12.8 billion. The Government recently separated the service business from management of infrastructure. The overall business paid interest of FF12.3 billion on accumulated debt of FF203 billion.

FROM EILEEN McCABE  
IN DUBLIN

**THE** high cost of motor insurance claims in the Republic of Ireland was shown again yesterday when Hibernian Group, one of the country's leading insurance companies, revealed that the underwriting loss on its motor account had almost doubled last year.

The loss of Ir£17 million contributed to a reduction in the operating profits of its general insurance business in Ireland to Ir£12.6 million from Ir£19.8 in the previous year.

However, a 73 per cent surge in operating profits in the company's life and pensions business and a small contribution from its UK operations lifted overall pre-tax operating profits to Ir£27 million, up 1 per cent. Operating earnings per share were up 7 per cent to 37.4c.

The results add fuel to the debate on motor insurance costs in the Republic which, industry experts say, are the highest in the EU. An industry survey in 1994 found that personal injury awards arising out of motor accidents in Ireland are on average four times higher than in the UK.

There is a final dividend of Ir£7p, payable on April 28, giving a total of Ir£10.1p, up 13.5 per cent.

**BY OUR CITY STAFF**

**THE** number of directors banned or disqualified from running limited companies rose by nearly 50 per cent in 1996, according to the Department of Trade and Industry.

Last year 946 directors were disqualified as unfit, up from 633 in 1995, while actions were started against 1,376, a rise of 20 per cent. Of those, 273 were banned by the courts from running companies, for a range of offences that included embezzlement and dishonest accounting.

John Taylor, corporate and consumer affairs minister, said the rise in disqualifications was partly due to new reporting standards introduced last September that were intended to make it easier for insolvency accountants to identify and report misconduct.

News of the increase comes as the DTI confirmed that it would seek the disqualification of ten directors of Barings, the investment bank that which lost more than £800 million through the actions of Nick Leeson, the rogue trader. If the courts agree, the Barings Ten could be banned from being directors for up to 15 years under the 1986 Company Directors Disqualification Act.

**BY FRASER NELSON**

**CHRIS EVANS**, the biotechnology entrepreneur, has created one of Britain's largest independent environmental consultancies by co-ordinating the merger of his own "green" businesses with Aspinwall & Co.

Enviros, which runs three consultancies with a combined turnover of £9 million, has bought Aspinwall for £7.5 million in a deal partly funded from Dr Evans's own resources.

end of this year, through buying at least two of its rivals.

Enviros will advise businesses how to operate more efficiently through environmentally friendly means, and will sell green products. Although it will trade under the slogan "Environmental Excellence", it will be dedicated mainly to enhancing clients' profitability. Dr Evans said: "Our products will be chosen on price and efficiency. The environmental aspect is a bonus — but a tremendous bonus."

Aspirinwalls will retain its separate brand name.

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Austria Sg	20.07	Netherlands Gld	3.260
Belgium Fr	56.18	New Zealand \$	2.43
Canada Cdn	0.928	Norway Kr	11.41
Denmark Kr	1.082	Portugal Esc	10.80
Dutch Gld	0.791	Spain Ptas	166.64
France Fr	5.137	Switzerland F	2.50
Germany DM	2.96	Sweden Kr	12.11
Greece Dr	4.17	Switzerland F	2.50
Hong Kong \$	13.22	Switzerland F	2.50
India Rupee	46.5	USA \$	1.794
Indonesia Rp	1,000		
Japan Yen	5.72		
South Africa R	1.08		
Taiwan Sh	5.72		
Thailand Bt	26.67		
United Kingdom £	106.50		

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□ And then there was one... □ Last episode for Emap's soap opera □ Waning fortunes of French holiday legend

## Dining on the last dodo

IN THE interests of biodiversity, should the regional electricity industry be declared a nature preserve? The bid for Yorkshire Electricity should slip under the wire before the election. Any offer for the last survivor of the class of 1990, Southern, could also succeed over the same timescale.

One is reminded of that anonymous Portuguese sailor who tucked into the last dodo. Eating one dodo is no more of a sin than eating the next — until one day, too late, there are none of them left. No one can say what use dodos might have been — provided some parallel-world Bernard Matthews with his fortune, perhaps? Likewise, we may not miss all our regional electricity companies until they are gone.

If Southern does succumb to an American landing party, the beast will have been clubbed over the head in the nick of time, because a hit squad from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds has been sighted on the horizon. Labour's John Birtle is not actually saying his party will block any bids in power, but the betting is that the Americans would have a more difficult ride.

The timing is tight anyway — the bidders for Yorkshire have opted for an accelerated timetable that should provide a decision within 30 days, taking this to about three weeks before a

May 1 election date. This explains the undue haste with which the deal has been done: the two Americans wanting to avoid a protracted bidding war. It explains the failure of Yorkshire to wait it out for a higher price, even if the earnings multiples being paid are not much higher than those paid for Northern in a hostile bid.

So much for fears about the utilities tax. The Americans must think the opportunities to create a Yorkshire mega-utility taking in, potentially, gas and telecoms are well worth the extra cost — not that this will prevent them from threatening legal action if a tax is levied.

PowerGen, one of the two big fossil-fuel generators, still harbours ambitions to buy a regional power company, but it had hoped to wait until after the election, when Labour might look more favourably on such a move. The company has clearly missed one boat and on the above analysis risks missing the next. But any bid for Southern would kill off the last dodo.

The loser would be the electricity regulator and, potentially,

customers. If every power distributor disappears, the job of setting prices by comparing one company with another becomes immeasurably more difficult. A few independents allow a clear view of finances that can be too easily obscured once companies come under new ownership.

That suggests a Southern bid should be blocked by whichever government, even if it would be hard on a set of shareholders who would be the only ones shut out of the ball. Better still to block Yorkshire and keep a breeding pair. This will probably not happen under the Conservatives. But it should.

### Arculus departs from the script

BACK in the 1960s there was a soap opera set in the racy world of consumer magazines. *Compact* was the name, if memory serves. It was one of those dramas where bright young people rush into each other's offices saying things like: "You swine, Richard — you utter swine."

The series enjoyed a brief revival



last year courtesy of Emap, the magazine publisher. The plot: two clever young men, Robin Miller and David Arculus, turn a sleepy local paper group into one of the most successful publishers of the past decade. Lots of dramatic potential here, because one is a motorbike-crazy journalist and the other a professional manager.

Enter a third character, an abrasive, experienced businessman, a favourite of Mrs Thatcher, as the new chairman. Which of the two will Sir John Hoskyns favour in the inevitable leadership battle? And how long will the other last?

Next episode should be a good, public boardroom row — men in suits with lines like, "In all conscience, Robin, I can't back you on this one." We got one last

autumn, and two non-executives walked. But what of Mr Arculus?

Fast-forward to last November, and Emap presenting interim figures to the City. Robin Miller is upbeat, profits up 34 per cent. Sir John is reassuring — split? Of course not. Everyone working together, team effort. David Arculus is strangely subdued.

In the last episode of the new series, Mr Arculus goes to Mr Miller and says he is leaving. No arguments. Emap's share price falls — lots of anxious calls to brokers. But what is remarkable is how well the price has performed over the past year despite the rows, up from below £5 to above £8 before yesterday's fall.

This would seem to put a question mark over just how essential Mr Arculus was. Kevin Hand, another director, is probably being groomed — should that be manured? — to take over much of his former job. The distinction between the job titles of Mr Miller, chief executive, and Mr Arculus, managing director, was always hard to understand. Emap is still in a strong position in its core markets, with benefits to come from the French business

and its expanding radio interests. Watchers might complain if it turns out to be a duller ride from now on, but investors will not.

### Mid-life crisis for Club Med

IF YOU can turn Euro Disney round, you can save anything. So thought grateful French investors, who pushed Club Med shares up a fifth after Philippe Bourguignon, chairman of the chastened theme park, agreed to become chief executive of the once-trendy but now sepiatined holiday group.

Customers who grit their teeth at Club Med prices might imagine it had profit margins to match. Not so. Profits peaked below £30 million in 1990. In 1995, Club Med made £18 million on turnover of more than £900 million. Last year, income slipped 6 per cent, profit shrank to about £8 million and an £80 million charge for a belated shake-up left the books and investors' faces red instead of bronzed.

Matching the getaway primitivism that proved so trendy in

the 1950s and 1960s with today's search for stress-free, sybaritic isolation, was never going to be easy. Identities became blurred when mate-hunting customers carried happy memories of communal encounters into middle age, and wanted to stay with Club Med but bring the kids and have them looked after. Club 18-30 was never going to have that problem.

Gilbert Trigano, who supplied tents for the first camp in 1950, stayed on until 1993, then handed over to his son Serge — not the best formula for moving with the market. M. Bourguignon will close camps, convert more to the cheaper Club Aquarius label and doubtless accumulate indulgences. That would suit investors but may leave Club Med as just a package operator in a tough market.

### A world apart

GUSSES has always had an other-worldly air, even if the gap with the rest of the twentieth century is gradually closing. Great Universal Stores, until yesterday, had no finance director; the post of chief executive is unfilled, and may remain so in perpetuity. Other quoted companies might be envious. However, as GUS has shown, you can get away with much if you are sitting on a mountain of cash.

## Thorn sheds 360 jobs on Radio Rentals closures

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

THORN, the rentals group that issued a profit warning last month, is to shut 90 Radio Rentals stores and make 360 staff redundant.

The move follows an announcement this month by Granada that it is to shut around 100 of its rental stores, a move that puts hundreds of jobs at risk.

Around 210 jobs will go at the 90 smaller Radio Rentals stores that are earmarked for closure by the company and the remaining 150 will go from Thorn's central support functions.

The redundancies, most of which are likely to be compulsory, should produce savings of between £6 million and £6.5 million a year.

The closures will reduce the

Radio Rentals chain to 530 stores.

Thorn shares rose 16½p, to 203p, on news of the cost-cutting, in spite of a fall in profits in the first nine months of this financial year.

Pre-tax profit, including exceptional charges, in the nine months to December 31 was £76.1 million, down from £113.9 million previously. The provisions cover liabilities relating to the closure of Ecom UK stores and demerger charges relating to the business's split with EMI last year.

No further provisions will be needed to pay for the redundancies. Excluding the exceptional items, pre-tax profit rose to £123 million, from £113.9 million a year ago.

The Government's pro-

posed increase in Insurance Premium Tax from 25 per cent to 17.5 per cent from April 1 is expected to knock up to £10 million off Thorn's profits in 1997-98.

The company plans to continue with the roll-out of its Crazy George's rental stores in the UK, and it hopes to have 60 open by the end of the financial year.

However, controversy in France last year over the opening, near Paris, of the first branch of Crazy George's in that country has effectively wrecked that trial of the format, a spokesman said. "We wanted the store to be a trial, but the scale of the publicity has ruined it," he said. "We will now have to have a hard look at what to do next in

France and the rest of continental Europe."

In the United States, business has been hit by a sluggish market and tough price competition from consumer electronics retailers. Thorn said that it is launching its own promotional programmes to reward customer loyalty.

Fourth-quarter trading results will feel the impact of the stronger sterling, which will reduce the value of non-UK profits. Thorn repeated its forecast that its full-year profit before tax and exceptional items will be broadly unchanged from last year's pro forma equivalent of £170.7 million.

Tempus, page 28

## Regal set to reap White Hart reward

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

REGAL HOTELS GROUP said that the first stage of the integration of the White Hart chain of hotels is complete and it will now be stepping up its marketing campaign.

The company quadrupled in size to 82 hotels when it bought the 60-strong chain from Granada for £122 million early last year. Charles Vere Nicol, executive chairman, said that margins are beginning to improve at the former Forte chain and that the full benefits of the acquisition should flow through this year.

Regal is also intending to revamp around 20 per cent of its room stock over the year. The company unveiled a 250 per cent increase in profits, excluding tax and exceptional items, to £10.35 million. Total sales increased 270 per cent to £66 million while earnings per share increased

38 per cent to 4.68p. Occupancy levels across the group rose by 4.9 percentage points, although the average room rate decreased 4.1 per cent. Gearing was reduced from a high of 75 per cent last May to 68 per cent at the year end.

Regal added that its first three theme bars had proved a success and it is aiming to add six new sites this year. But the company is intending to convert only one hotel to the Country Inns & Suites brand, for which it acquired franchise rights from Carlson, the privately owned leisure group.

Regal shares rose 1p to 64½p, compared with a rights issue price of 42p at the time of the White Hart acquisition. The total dividend was doubled to 1p, with a final 0.675p payable on March 26.

Tempus, page 28

## Wolfson favours GUS over Next

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

LORD WOLFSON of Sunningdale has signalled that he intends to give up the chairmanship of Next within a year to concentrate on running Great Universal Stores, the mail order group (See Pennington, this page).

Lord Wolfson said: "I spend very little time with Next and am full time with GUS. I suppose this will last for a fairly limited period, maybe another year."

He stepped down from being executive to non-executive chairman of Next, where he and David Jones, chief executive, are credited with engineering its recovery, when he became executive chairman of GUS last August.

He said that GUS and Next are not yet direct competitors, but would become so "if and when GUS gets into direct mail brand catalogues". Lord

Wolfson was speaking yesterday as he revealed boardroom changes at GUS, which included the appointment of David Tyler as group finance director — a post that did not previously exist.

Company advisers suggested the finance director role had been created at the suggestion of institutional investors. However, Lord Wolfson said there had been no pressure. Previously, the chairman and deputy chairman oversaw financial matters through a finance committee.

Mr Tyler's last position was as commercial and finance director of Christie's. Also appointed yesterday were David Bury as group commercial director and treasurer of GUS and Louise Patten, as a non-executive director. These appointments were to replace directors who have retired.

## Cloning experiment boosts PPL

Shares of PPL Therapeutics rose 52½p to 387½p as the market digested the news that the Scottish genetic engineering company has successfully cloned a sheep.

Details of the experiment, conducted with the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh, are to be published this week in *Nature*, the scientific journal.

PPL, which came to the market at 450p last June, was previously best known for its "transgenic" production of human proteins in the milk of sheep.

### Future hopes

Future Integrated Telephony, the telecom and computer systems integrator that joined the Alternative Investment Market in November, said that it should return to profit by April. The company said the loss of £29,000 (£105,000 profit) in the six months to November 30 reflected heavy investment, and would be offset with profits it was making now. Sales rose to £2.12 million (£1.64 million).

### Cash injection

F1 Retail Holdings, which has 15 shops dedicated to motor racing paraphernalia, is raising £500,000 on the Oxfam market. It wants the extra cash to open another 25 stores by the end of 1999.



David Page, chief executive, plans more restaurants

## Pizza group finds recipe for growth

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

PIZZAEXPRESS aims to open a further 25 restaurants before the year end as the company continues to expand away from its London base.

The group opened 16 sites during the first half, including sites in Belfast and Lytham, Lancashire.

In the six months to December 31, pre-tax profits increased 54 per cent to £6.3 million as the company benefited from new openings and an increase in like-for-like sales. Overall turnover rose 57 per cent to £30.6 million.

The group acquired 29 franchised sites at the end of November for £25 million. In the seven weeks to December 31 these restaurants produced profits of £440,000 on sales of £2.2 million.

The company now owns a total of 119 restaurants and eight franchises. PizzaExpress said 40 per cent of the chain had been open for less than two years and should continue to show year-on-year growth. It is also aiming to accelerate its overseas expansion efforts having recently signed five franchise agreements.

PizzaExpress added that trading is brisk and that it is confident of a successful outcome to the year. Shares in the company closed up 2p at 560½p, compared with a rights issue price of 425p at the time of the franchise buy-back. The interim dividend rises 21 per cent to 0.85p a share, payable on April 7.

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## Recruitment specialist to float

By FRASER NELSON

HARVEY NASH, a recruitment consultancy specialising in computer operators, is coming to the main market next month via a placing which should value the company at £45 million.

The company was set up nine years ago by David Higgins, Tom Crawford and David Treacher, who left Lloyd Chatman Associates and founded Harvey Nash with their own savings. The three, who are joint managing directors of the company, are now on course to share a paper fortune of £27 million.

Tom Crawford remortgaged his house

to finance his share of the start-up. He said: "It was some decision to take. We did wonder whether we'd done the right thing. We saw that computers would play an increasingly important role in business, which was quite an easy assumption, but it would have been hard to predict that the industry would go through the boom we're seeing now."

The company is expecting to return sales of £35 million for the year to January 31, an increase of 50 per cent. It predicts that the shortage of computer operators will become more acute, lifting average salaries in the industry and encouraging workers to leave permanent employment

for contract work, where they can often double their salary.

More than 20 per cent of revenue comes from overseas offices in Stuttgart and Zurich. The company expects the shortage of computer staff will encourage other European countries to loosen their labour regulations, and it plans to open more continental offices in preparation for this.

Harvey Nash plans to raise little more than its flotation costs through the placing, and come to the market when an investment opportunity presents itself. It eventually plans to provide its headhunting and contracting services to the financial, healthcare and retail sectors.



STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

# Pilkington gloom lifts as shares edge forward

HEAVY turnover in Pilkington, Britain's biggest glassmaker, suggests that some good news may be on the way at last for hard-pressed shareholders.

The price ended 5p dearer at 141p as almost ten million shares changed hands. Currently they are hovering just above their low for the year of 130p, with figures due towards the end of March.

SBC Warburg, the broker, is said to have taken out one large buyer who is reckoned to have been overhanging the market for some weeks. A line of 2.64 million shares that went through at 138p on the ticker seemed to underline that view.

Analysts say trading remains difficult in Europe with prices under pressure. They say Pilkington is now looking vulnerable at these levels and refuse to rule out the possibility of a U.S. bid.

The rest of the equity market made a cautious start to the week, with the investors looking anxiously towards Thursday's Wirral south by-election and a clutch of trading statements from various blue-chip companies.

Another strong start by the Dow Jones industrial average in New York ended prices in London to close above their worst of the day. The FT-SE 100 index rallied from an early 21-point fall to finish 5.7 off at 4,331.1. Turnover was a meagre 679 million shares. Ex-dividends in SmithKline Beecham, down 11p at 910p, and Barclays, 32p off at 644p, led the fall.

Yield on the 10-year gilt rose to 6.84p, with the 10-year gilt at 502p, and others accounted for a ten-point fall.

Yorkshire Electricity responded to news of the £1.5 billion joint bid from two US power companies with a leap of 63p to 82p. That compares with the terms from American Electric Power and Public Services Colorado of 92p a share. The bid must be approved by the regulator.

That leaves just Southern Electric, up 23p at 770p, as the remaining independent regional electricity company.

Elsewhere in the power sector, official trading began in shares of Energy Group, hived off from Hanson as part of a four-way merger. The group, which consists of Eastern Group and Peabody in the US, finished 43p dearer at 568p on turnover of almost five million shares. "New" Hanson, comprising the



Martin Beck of Fitch, which is paying dividends again

building products activities, closed 1p dearer at 261p.

The bid for Yorkshire Electricity left near neighbour Yorkshire Water 13p cheaper at 710p with the speculators ruling out a merger between the two utilities.

The rest of the water companies were marked higher as doubts grew about a Labour Government's ability to im-

Benson's new retail team. Bonds also rose 1p to 699p, although Kleinwort only rates the shares a "hold".

PPL Therapeutics stood out with a jump of 52p at 387p after signing up a licensing agreement with the Roslin Institute, which has developed a method of cloning sheep.

There seems to be no stopping Shield Diagnostics. The

William Holdings has been doing its best to reassure institutional shareholders about earnings growth following its recent £1.3 billion acquisition of Chubb Security. One buyer paid 32p for a line of five million shares, a premium of 1p on the ruling price at the time. It closed 10p dearer at 318p.

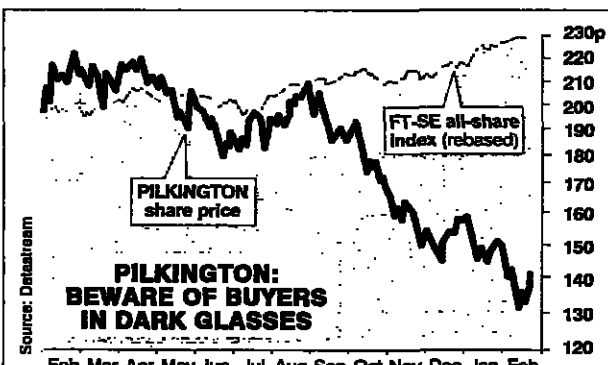
pose a windfall tax on profits. Anglian Water rose 6p to 644p, Thames Water 5p to 684p, South West Water 7p to 691p, United Utilities 6p to 667p, and Hyder 3p to 835p.

Profit-taking left Zeneca 24p lower at £18.71 after their recent strong run.

Marks & Spencer rose 8p to 488p after some positive comments from Kleinwort

price touched 635p before settling 3p higher at 567p. Investors remain excited about the group's new technique for detecting heart ailments early.

A profits warning left Shorrock Holdings, the builder, nursing a fall of 15p at 57p. AIM-listed Stanford Rook tumbled 10p to 530p on learning that phase three testing of its tuberculosis treat-



PILKINGTON: BEWARE OF BUYERS IN DARK GLASSES

ment had been delayed. United News & Media firmed 16p to 704p with David Arculus quitting Emap as managing director to become the group's new chief operating officer.

MAID rose 36p to 198p after agreeing to transfer its hotel internet technology to the 4th Network Inc for \$7.5 million.

Racal Electronics touched 301p before closing 9p better at 297p after reports that Sir Ernest Harrison, chairman, planned to break the business up. In the past, Racal has demerged its Chubb Security and Vodafone divisions. Vodafone firmed 3p to 288p.

Third-quarter figures from Thoma were in line with expectations after last month's profits warning and the shares responded with a rise of 16p at 203p. The market reacted positively to the news that 90 Radio Rango are to be sold. EMI, the other half of the demerged company, fell 40p to £1.95 ahead of third-quarter figures today.

The market gave a cool response to full-year figures from Fitch, the design services group headed by Martin Beck, chairman and chief executive. It made a return to the dividend list for the first time in five years. Pre-tax profits grew from £1.53 million to £1.84 million, with shareholders rewarded with a 2p payout. The share dipped from 481p to 464p.

Sedgwick, the insurance broker, slipped 3p to 128p on the back of a "sell" recommendation from Nikko, the Japanese securities house.

GILT-EDGED: Bond prices fell by more than £1.5 million as investors took a cautious view of events ahead of tomorrow's auction and the clutch of economic information due out from the US later in the week.

The bulk of the business transacted was in the futures pit where the March series of the long gilt finished 5p down at £113 as a total of 54,000 contracts were completed.

Treasury 8 per cent 2015 fell £1.32 to £106.12, while Treasury 8 per cent 2020 was £1.32 off at £104.16.

NEW YORK: Rallies in a handful of blue chips sent the Dow Jones industrial average sharply higher in morning trade, triggering curbs on index arbitrage, and by midday it was 44.25 points ahead at 6,975.87.

## MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday): Dow Jones 6,975.87 (+44.25) S&P Composite 405.35 (+3.58)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 18,996.99 (+137.55)

Hong Kong: Hang Seng 13,375.69 (+99.18)

Amsterdam: EOE Index 733.51 (+4.59)

Sydney: DAA 2,482.6 (+7.3)

Frankfurt: DAX 3,184.21 (+0.12)

Singapore: Straits 2,223.99 (+7.29)

Brussels: General 1,172.55 (+42.90)

Paris: CAC-40 2,567.85 (+5.01)

Zurich: SNA Gen 933.10 (+9.70)

London: FT 30 2,866.3 (+3.6) FT 100 4,331.1 (+5.7) FTSE Mid 250 2,114.52 (+0.03) FTSE 350 2,141.6 (+1.2) FTSE Europe 100 2,135.35 (+7.27) FT All-Share 2,114.52 (+0.03) FT Non Financials 2,162.15 (+2.58) FT Financials 2,119.99 (+0.14) FT Govt Secs 96.20 (+0.44) Barclays 526.25 SEAG Volume 679.1m USS 1,635.55 (+0.0144) German Mark 2,720.0 (+0.0317) Exchange Index 97.7 (+0.5) Bank of England official close (4pm) ECU 1.733 RPI 154.4 Jan (2.8%) Jan 1997-100 RPIX 153.9 Jan (3.1%) Jan 1997-100

## RECENT ISSUES

C&S Publishing 175 ... Callidore Group 3 ... Callidore Warrants 1/4 ... Centrica (75p) 68 ... Energy Group (525) 568p ... First Russian Writ 487p ... GB Railways 179p ... Infobank Intl 141p ... J Lewis Hungerford 4 ... PSD (A/L) 28p ... Prelude 118p ... Prelude Warrants 41p ... TR Euro Gwth Writ 60p ... Tea Plantations Writ 102p ... Technoplast 119p ... Zicor Mining 24p

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## MAJOR CHANGES

RISES: Pascoe's 95p (+21p) MAID 198p (+36p) Anglo Wiggins 172p (+11p) Air London 237p (+12p) Xanovia 305p (+15p) Chiroscopos 412p (+19p) Old English Pub 230p (+10p) Eng China Cl 195p (+18p) Vendome 533p (+16p) Boots 899p (+12p) Courts Furnish 545p (+15p) Redland 347p (+8p)

FALLS: Shorrock 57p (-15p) Southampton 94p (-9p) Derby Group 269p (-12p) Emap 785p (-27p) Volant 710p (-10p) Catcher 710p (-15p) All Nippon Air 452p (-9p) Scotia 640p (-12p) Carn Energy 568p (-9p) Enterprise 626p (-9p) De La Rue 650p (-12p) DCS Gp 264p (-7p)

Closing Prices Page 31

# TEMPUS Building Hanson trust

THIRTEEN months after Lord Hanson announced the break-up of his creation, the Hanson demerger is complete. In the process, shareholders who stuck with the company and its successors will have lost more than one-quarter of their investment. Instead of one Hanson share worth about 205p, they now own shares in four companies - The Energy Group, Imperial Tobacco, Millennium Chemicals and "new" Hanson - which are together worth the equivalent of 151p.

The total has been dragged down by the US-listed Millennium, which has faced selling from UK shareholders. However, Imperial Tobacco made a bright market debut, and Energy ended its first day's trading up 43p at 568p.

The fundamental problem centres on Hanson itself. The demerger has shown how much advantage the group took from its

nimble tax planning. But as well as a higher tax charge, new Hanson must also battle with doubts over its balance sheet and its strategy. Hanson's pro forma shareholder funds of £562 million are dwarfed by £1.75 billion of provisions to cover US environmental and other liabilities. Unless it can provide more detail, this is likely to revive doubts about cashflow and accounting policies.

Hanson owns some strong businesses in markets that are broadly recovering. However, it will take time to convince investors that it has lost its hunger for the big deal.

Analysts at BZW reckon that, even at a 25 per cent discount to the sector, Hanson shares should be able to command a price of 340p. Although that makes yesterday's close of 281p look cheap, it could be months before the market overcomes its doubts.

## British Aerospace

BRITISH AEROSPACE and GEC are running rings around each other like pubescent teenagers. Should they or shouldn't they get together, they ponder. What are our mates doing? Isn't it a bit early for a full-blown relationship? What if I get hurt? All we know for certain is that the two wallflowers have been caught snogging behind the bike shed a few times. Talks have taken place, they admit. A Bae-GEC wedding is the brainchild of Lord Weinstock, who cannot be blamed for the current pussyfooting.

He made several strong pushes during his GEC reign, but the irresistible attraction was not mutual. George Simpson, his successor, could now step out of his shadow in one swift move if he got Bae off the fence and into bed.

## Thorn

THORN emerged from behind its big brother EMI last year looking frail and unkempt. The decision to shut 90 UK stores is the first sign that Thorn intends to spruce itself up.

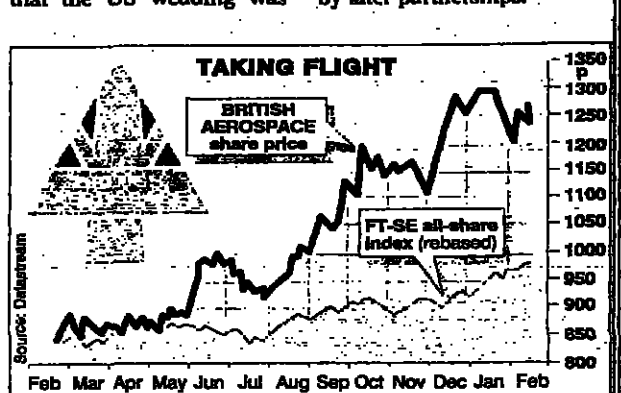
Its problems are many and complex. In Britain it has to cope with fewer people renting televisions and videos, and with resistance to the idea of hiring kitchen tables, sofas and the like from the inappropriately named Radio Rentals.

In France it had a barrage of bad publicity when it opened a branch of Crazy George's, the brasher version of Radio Rentals, near Paris. The French considered the concept of renting household goods to be in dubious taste, and Radio Rentals now admits that the criticism effectively scuppered the trial. This has put the brakes on its hopes of a swift roll-out of its chain on the Continent.

In America the company is

## Compare these consolidation

plans with the gusto and panache with which the more mature American aerospace industry has reinvented itself over the last three years. The merger between Boeing and McDonnell Douglas is the American equivalent of a Bae-GEC tie-up. The difference, though, is that the US wedding was



## Regal Hotels

REGAL HOTELS very nearly acquired the White Hart chain of hotels for a steal from a desperate Forte last year. Granada's victory in the bid battle ensured that the price the company ultimately paid was more demanding, but as yesterday's results demonstrate, it does not look too high.

Regal has spent the first year cutting costs at the White Hart chain, a move that has ensured the hotel

profit contribution rose from 21.6 per cent to 23.3 per cent. The company now needs to prove it can succeed where Forte failed, attracting more customers and commanding higher rates through renovation and an improved marketing campaign.

Regal also has plans on the back burner that should really kick in once the revitalisation of the White Hart chain is complete. The company is keen to improve the food and beverage spend within the hotels and has had success with a branding exercise that will be expanded to a total of nine units this year.

There is also the franchise deal with Carlson for the Country Inns & Suite brand. Regal will be looking for partners for new builds, restricting its risk to the operating side of the business.

Regal has made a good start, but the mid-market hotel sector is crowded and the company will need to work hard on its marketing to prevent being squeezed out.

## COMMODITIES

LIFEE: CRUDE OIL \$/barrel FOB: Brent (Physical) 19.05 (-0.30) Brent (100) 19.00 (-0.40) Brent (5) 19.00 (-0.35) W. Texas Intermediate (May) 20.00 (-0.45) W. Texas Intermediate (July) 20.00 (-0.45)

PRODUCTS (\$/MT): Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery): Premium Unk'd 205 (off) Lead (100) 170-180 Zinc (100) 170-180 Naphtha 270-280

IFPE FUTURES (GNT Ltd): GAS OIL: Mar 19.75-19.80 Jun 17.50-17.60 May 19.75-19.80 Jul 17.50-17.60 Apr 19.75-19.80 Aug 17.50-17.60

BRINT (GNT Ltd): Apr 19.75-19.80 Jun 17.50-17.60 May 19.75-19.80 Aug 17.50-17.60

RUSSIAN (GNT Ltd): Apr 19.75-19.80 Jun 17.50-17.60 May 19.75-19.80 Aug 17.50-17.60

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## LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Long Gilt: Previous open interest: 211774 Mar 97 112.01 112.01 112.01 112.01 5941

German Govt Bond (Bund): Previous open interest: 30824 Mar 97 103.38 103.37 103.38 103.38 9948

Italian Govt Bond (BTP): Previous open interest: 13370 Mar 97 130.00 130.00 130.00 130.00 4298

Japanese Govt Bond (JGB): Previous open interest: 11040 Mar 97 126.01 126.01 126.01 126.01 1894

Three Mth Sterling: Previous open interest: 124948 Mar 97 93.73 93.74 93.72 93.72 4979

Three Mth Eurodollar: Previous open interest: 124948 Mar 97 93.73 93.74 93.72 93.72 4979

Three Mth Euroyen: Previous open interest: 47778 Mar 97 93.73 93.74 93.72 93.72 4979

Three Mth ECU: Previous open interest: 34012 Mar 97 93.73 93.74 93.72 93.72 4979

FTSE 100: Previous open interest: 66007 Mar 97 4330.0 4330.0 4330.0 4330.0 229

Base Rates: Clearing Bank: 5.00% Finance: 5.00% Discount Market: 5.00% Treasury: 5.00%

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## DOLLAR RATES

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## WALL STREET

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## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Doomsday lasts all night

IT WAS an early start to the week for Christopher Garnett. Handing out refund claim forms at King's Cross station on Sunday night, the chief executive of GNER was doing his best to appease the hordes of harassed passengers after their heavily delayed journey from Edinburgh.

Wind had blown down powerlines, passengers had been uninformed, and the buffet had sold out. Accompanied by his daughter, who was on her way back to teacher training college in Durham, Garnett had piled himself from his house in Putney.

"It was a doomsday scenario," he tells me. From 6.30pm, he worked through the night, before jumping on an early morning train to York, his home for three days a week. "My daughter told me that it was easier teaching eight-year-olds than dealing with aggravated passengers," says Garnett.

### Hanson winner

THE winner of the 1996 Hanson Achievement Award works for... Eastern Electricity. Lord Hanson and Derek Bonham, Hanson's departing deputy chairman, turned up in person yesterday to congratulate Jacqui Harding, who is a customer services call centre manager at Eastern Electricity, which is part of the Energy Group that yesterday broke away from the industrial conglomerate. Sir Iain Vallance, BT chairman, was there to hand over the award.



"I hear they are moving this office to America"

### Calling the shots

TONY BLAIR and Tony Banks crossed swords on Saturday on the launch of Radio Chelsea. Squeezed into a tiny studio with host David Mellor, the Labour MP let it be known that he had recently won at 66-1 on Chelsea to beat Liverpool 4-2. Faster than you can say Gianfranco Zola, Blair set to find out what Banks is betting on the election. Banks shot back: "I don't vote on elections, only on important issues."

**BAMBL** Is it a deer? No, it's a "\*\*\*\* awful MBI". The latest edition of *Venturespeak 2000*, a light-hearted A-Z of terms published by 3i for the venture capital industry, informs me that this is when a management buy-out goes wrong.

### Jet-setters

THE Gold brothers have launched their own private flight charter. Ralph and his younger brother, David, see Gold Air International as a solution to their heightened fears over flight safety standards. The airline's siblings, who both hold a pilot's licence, have so far invested £2 million in the operation at Biggin Hill, Kent. (David won the Malta Air Rally on three occasions.) The airline currently comprises two small planes and in addition has access to two jets. With 90 companies under their wing, the Golds' next big project is the flotation of Birmingham City Football Club. The airline will certainly make a difference when it comes to away games.

MORAG PRESTON



Judy Ledger with her daughter Sara, husband Tim, and sons James, back left, and Richard at a special baby care unit in Wolverhampton

## Charity's brief but unwelcome brush with the price of fame

Jason Nissé on the misguided headlines that brought heartbreak to Baby Lifeline

WHEN Judy Ledger picked up a newspaper last August she had one of the shocks of her life. Baby Lifeline, the charity that she had formed 15 years previously after losing three prematurely born children in infancy, was featured in banner headlines as facing an investigation by the Charity Commissioners.

The article said that the charity had spent 83 per cent of the money it had raised on administration and only a fraction on the intensive-care equipment for babies that it was hoping to buy for hospitals. Ms Ledger, a former nurse, saw her life's work collapsing before her eyes.

In fact, Baby Lifeline was facing an evaluation by the Commissioners, which tends to follow a complaint. There were 1,255 of these in 1995 and only 255 of them led on to full investigations. And the Commissioners admit that all they did was to give Baby Lifeline advice on its administration and presentation.

Baby Lifeline was exposed to the full glare of publicity because of its relationship with one particularly famous patron, Sophie Rhys-Jones, the girlfriend of Prince Edward. Ms Rhys-Jones was working as national projects co-ordinator for the charity having been introduced to Baby Lifeline by Brian MacLaurin, a public relations man and her boss at the time. Charities like to be associated with celebrities because it brings free coverage in the media, and most celebrities like to ally themselves with charities to give themselves a caring image.

"Sophie was working with me exclusively for just one day a week," Ms Ledger recalls. "Her involvement brought a huge amount of publicity. Up until then it had been good but after this story there started to be bad coverage."

The charity's corporate sponsors were unsettled, though ultimately supportive. Safeway, the supermarket chain, was the only one to withdraw its backing but it returned to the fold as soon as it was able to convince itself that everything was in order. It is now sponsoring the latest Baby Lifeline promotion — Mother & Baby Week — that runs from 2 March.

However, the reaction from the man in the street was bad. The charity has a

decentralised structure, with a small head office in Coventry staffed by only three people, and 40 satellite groups run by volunteers. The groups collect money directly from the public and saw a dramatic falling off in the amount they were collecting. "One person came up to a collector and said: 'I'm not giving any money to you, you're all embezzlers!'"

The fact was that Baby Lifeline had done nothing wrong. Its only crime was naivety in an increasingly cut-throat charity business. Ms Ledger believes that the accounts were leaked to the press by a rival charity. Even though the two charities are not doing the same work they found themselves going to the same sources for money and the leak strategy was attractive because Baby Lifeline's accounts for 1995 look quite bad.

The charity was expanding and had a large-scale launch at the Royal Albert Hall featuring celebrities, among them Dame Judi Dench and Anne Diamond. "It was a classic case of having

to speculate to accumulate. The event was to move us from being a very small charity to a national one," says Ms Ledger. The cost of the event was underwritten by Lloyds Chemists. But instead of separating this expense out in its books, Baby Lifeline included the costs and income in the profit and loss account so that it looked like it was spending a fortune on promotions.

On top of this most of the money collected comes from the local groups. But they keep 80 per cent of what they collect, and give all of this to local hospitals, so that only one fifth went through Baby Lifeline's accounts. Of this about half would go on expenses and the other half to good causes. But the accounts were presented in such a way as to make it look as though Baby Lifeline spent 50 per cent on administration, not 10 per cent.

After talking to the Charity Commissioners, Ms Ledger made changes. The charity swapped accountants to Leigh

Christou, a firm that specialises in charity work, and KPMG has offered assistance. The board of the charity has also been changed adding in a medical advisory council and a high-powered business advisory group — the first member of which, Alan Jones of TNT, the distribution company, has been recruited. Ms Ledger is now looking to employ a professional fundraiser to manage the group's national projects.

As she points out the charity business has changed substantially in the 15 years since Baby Lifeline began. In those days the charity looked to any source it could for money and it was all rolled into a single pot. Today there are a host of charities competing for the "compassionate pound" and charities use all manner of means to promote themselves heavily, most usually by working with corporate sponsors.

Charities will approach a company to underwrite a promotion, or offer free advertising or services. For instance, supermarket carrier bags often carry charity advertisements. Help-Ads, an innovative scheme to raise money for the Red Cross, sells advertising space on the back of products or, lately, on sports teams' shirts to related products, and takes the income. In the next few weeks Baby Lifeline will launch an affinity credit card backed by Bank of Scotland.

Ms Ledger expects that this year the charity will cover all its administrative costs from corporate backing. This means that money taken directly from the public goes straight to the charity. And the way of raising money has become more sophisticated. There are still people on street corners with collecting tins, but more and more is coming from give-as-you-earn schemes or covenants, both of which attract tax relief for those giving, or from bequests, with many charities offering free will-making kits to encourage this.

For Baby Lifeline the short, sharp shock it received has left it stronger in the end. But there has been one notable casualty. "Sophie, understandably, has to distance herself," Ms Ledger says, diplomatically. "She's no longer involved to the level she was."

Baby Lifeline can be contacted at Empathy Enterprise Building, Brunston Crescent, The Hill Lane, The Hill, Coventry CV4 9SW; or telephone 01203 44135



Working partnership: Sophie Rhys-Jones, left, and Judy Ledger

## BUSINESS LETTERS

### Carrying the can for takeover leaks

From Mr M. J. Ward

Sir, Pennington has put his finger precisely on the point where responsibility should lie for the kind of leaks that disturb the Panel on Takeovers and Mergers and other City authorities ("The eleventh commandment", February 5). If firms such as Citigate are found to have given information to affect a takeover bid battle then their principal, in this case Triplex, should carry the can. No professional public relations practitioner would give any information of this kind without a nod of approval from the client. The remedy in case of any breach should be censure of the client who, in turn, would do well to throw the PR firm overboard.

Institute of Public Relations members found guilty of such a breach could face a complaint and possible disciplinary action under their code of conduct. The City and the Panel should encourage the use of consultancies fronted by IPR members covered by the code. In turn, I am sure that the IPR would respond positively to requests to strengthen the financial expertise of its Professional Practices Committee.

Yours faithfully,  
M. J. WARD,  
5 The Lane,  
Blackheath Park, SE3.

### Interest rates must come down to avoid bloodletting of British industry

From Mr Austin Mitchell, MP for Great Grimsby (Labour)

Sir, The Governor of the Bank of England knows so little of economics or of the real world of making and selling things, that he just cannot understand the role of the exchange rate.

He sees a rising rate as a weapon against inflation. In fact it is damaging to manu-

facturing, and the consequences are already evident in reported losses and profit falls. That can only be the beginning when it takes up to a year for the consequences of exchange rate changes to come through.

It is axiomatic that if the exchange rate rises, either wages are too low or interest rates are too high. The exchange rate can only be "competitive" when we can balance

our trade in conditions of full employment at a high and stable rate of growth.

On any sane non-gubernatorial view, the huge rise in our exchange rate is clear evidence that interest rates must come down by 2 to 3 per cent immediately if we are not to see a third bloodletting of British industry just as Labour comes to power.

Doesn't the Governor realise that unless the exchange

rate is competitive, imports rise, exports suffer and manufacturing cannot generate the profits it needs to invest and grow? This nation still lives by manufacturing, and weakening it relegates us to a permanent balance of payments deficit, high unemployment and a permanent public sector deficit.

Yours faithfully,  
AUSTIN MITCHELL,  
House of Commons, SW1.

### Sector Challenge extends scope of Government help to exporters

From the Minister for Trade

Sir, Tony Langford's letter on trade fairs of February 13 misses the point as to why we have introduced Sector Challenge as a means of enhancing UK competitiveness. This includes the important aspect of successful export promotion.

The Government considers it important to encourage our exporters to attend overseas trade fairs. We will continue to provide funds for a substantial number of trade fairs each year.

However, it is important that we ensure that the money is channelled to firms in the best possible way.

The Sector Challenge encourages businesses to propose new ways of using Government assistance which would not have been possible

under the Trade Fairs Support Scheme — for example, funding a series of events taking place over a number of years. The first round of Sector Challenge has been a huge success, with just over 600 outline bids for support in a range of projects including trade promotion.

The Trade Fair Support Scheme has always been oversubscribed and potential sponsors have to take part in an annual bidding round. The 300 successful TFS bids for 1997-98 were announced recently.

A further 60 bids for trade fair support were made under the first round of the Sector Challenge. Some of these take a broader strategic and innovative approach to the needs of their sectors as a whole and this is the type of bid which

Sector Challenge will encourage in relation to trade promotion. The advisory panel has asked for about half of these initial applicants to work up their proposals in further detail. Final consideration for funding will take place in March.

Naturally we will review in the light of the first Sector Challenge how best to provide for future trade fair support within subsequent Challenges.

I very much hope businesses will continue to exploit the Government's support for trade fairs as a promotional vehicle for their products.

Yours faithfully,  
ANTHONY NELSON,  
Minister for Trade,  
Department of Trade and Industry,  
1 Victoria Street.

### Either way, we all pay in the end

From Mr Terence J. Howes

Sir, Your report (Business News, January 31) that Mr Ian Byatt, Director-General of Ofwat, is "concerned that this cutting of rebates to customers could benefit shareholders at the expense of customers". I had not realised that these were two different human species. Are there any shareholders who are not also customers?

We are often asked "why should the taxpayer subsidise the council tax payer?" — or the other way round. Either way, we all pay in the end.

Yours faithfully,  
TERENCE J. HOWES,  
4 Presbury Drive,  
Warminster,  
Wiltshire.

## Dangling the carrot of independence

THE City's teenage scribbles are now 30-something but, from habit, still wary of Labour. In the face of Labour's huge poll lead, they have taken some solace in making dire predictions about the economic legacy likely to face a victorious Gordon Brown.

Taxes, the conventional wisdom has it, will have to be raised sharply to return the public finances to health, and interest rates will have to be increased emphatically to head off another cycle of boom and bust. If anything, rates will be higher under Mr Brown than they would have been under Ken Clarke because Labour has to prove its anti-inflation credentials.

But none of this is necessarily the case. After last week's news of a huge repayment of borrowing, some City voices are becoming relatively optimistic on the public finances. And there are good reasons to think that interest rate expectations are far too pessimistic.

Labour's real purpose is to break down the monotheism of the Bank's current statutory role

Labour's monetary policy enters the spotlight with a major speech from Mr Brown tomorrow on inflation. He is expected to reveal his inflation target — likely to be unchanged from the current one — and will flesh out Labour's relationship with the Bank of England. For now, little substantive change is expected. There will still be monthly monetary meetings with a few presentational tweaks. For example, rate decisions will be announced directly after each meeting but this is not much different from now when it is pretty obvious within 24 hours whether rates have moved.

Where Labour does seem to offer something different is in its plans for Bank advice to be broadened. A Monetary Policy Committee, comprising three or four outside experts as well as the Governor, Deputy Governor and two other Bank directors, would be set up. Another source of non-Bank influence would come from a re-formed Court including members from industry, the unions and the regions, which would oversee the Committee.

Labour sells this as "depersonalising" the current process but this seems trivial compared with the real purpose — that is to break down the monotheism of the Bank's current statutory role, which is

merely to help the Government hit the inflation target. Quite rightly, Labour is keen to develop a Federal Reserve-type dual role for the Bank, asking it to promote growth as well as fight inflation. Labour's formula moves in this direction without an explicit growth target, which would be opposed by the Bank.

This is blameless evolution. But it is not nearly as important as the tactical fact that Labour means to remain in charge of rates as long as it sees fit but is, at the same time, dangling the carrot of independence in front of the Bank, dependent on its track record.

Far from Labour not being able to afford to defy Eddie George, this "virtue but not yet" approach to monetary policy puts the Bank on the defensive. Not only will the Bank be on notice to behave — it already seems to have been under the gun from Labour to prove its objectivity in the election run-up by calling on Mr Clarke to raise rates — but so will Mr George, whose job is due for review next year.

Such considerations aside, there are good economic reasons to believe that rates should not have to rise dramatically. Not least is the fact that the inflation outlook is benign, as both Mr Clarke and now the Bank publicly acknowledge. It is sterling's strength that has been most influential, and which suggests that the brunt of slowing the economy, if necessary, should fall on the fiscal, not the monetary, side.

Higher rates would make the pound even stronger and just imagine a situation in which monetary union is postponed, the mark soars and European rates are slashed. Even if we believe that the fiscal position is brighter than it was, it would be harder to cut British rates and limit the pound's strength if there was a perception of fiscal laxity.

In any case, tighter fiscal, rather than monetary, policy is intrinsically attractive to give Labour more leeway for spending programmes and to rebalance the economy away from consumption. None of this suggests that Labour will be looking down the barrel of an interest-rate shotgun aimed from Threadneedle Street.

### Alliance & Leicester offers the best distribution of shares to members

From Mr Michael Hardern

Sir, Your report of the Alliance & Leicester Action Group's last stand (February 4) brings some sympathy. The essence of their complaint is that they feel they were misled into leaving large sums in accounts at uncompetitive interest rates in the expectation of a greater windfall.

Alliance & Leicester has come out with by far the best distribution. Five out of six members get bigger windfalls, 80 per cent of savers and all borrowers are better off, while 50 per cent of savers and all borrowers get bonuses 50 per cent larger than under Halifax

or Woolwich formulas. Alliance also allowed members to top up their accounts so they were not caught out by an announcement without the crucial £100 in their accounts.

Letters (February 4) touched on a "windfall tax on windfalls". Societies have not taken up the Demos think-tank suggestion that they give charity windfalls of 5 to 10 per cent for those not fortunate to have an account let alone a windfall. If the taxman steps in, they will have only themselves to blame.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL HARDERN,  
3 Rathbone Street,  
W1.

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**TRADING PERIOD:** Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

[illegible]

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Graded	64%	10.5	11.5	MED
Net Tot Cp	23%			
Net Tot Inc	31%	21.6	5.6	

## BRITISH FUNDS

**SHORTS (under 5 years)**

**LONGS (over 15 years)**

108 <sup>1</sup>	67 <sup>1</sup>	Each 9 <sup>1</sup>
110 <sup>1</sup>	110 <sup>1</sup>	Each 12 <sup>1</sup>
112 <sup>1</sup>	107	Each 10 <sup>1</sup>

UNDATED

**MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)**

**INDEX-LINKED** on project

114 <sup>th</sup>	107 <sup>th</sup>	Comp 9-25
50 <sup>th</sup>	51 <sup>st</sup>	Trans 6-25
100 <sup>th</sup>	101 <sup>st</sup>	Trans 8-25

1205-2	1125-2	Trans. L.
1205-3	1705-2	Trans. L.
1205-4	1705-3	Trans. L.

100% 57% 200% 200%

128 <sup>2</sup> <sub>27</sub>	113 <sup>3</sup> <sub>21</sub>	YOUNG, R.
126 <sup>4</sup> <sub>2</sub>	113 <sup>3</sup> <sub>21</sub>	ZUCK, R.

Source: FT Information  
 1 # Price at suspension; 1 Ex dividend; 1 Ex scrip; 1 Ex rights  
 2 issue; 1 Ex alt; 5 Ex capital distribution; \* Figures or capital  
 3 amount; No significant data. Companies in bold are  
 4 constituents of the FTSE 100 index.





**FILM**  
Baz Luhrmann's updating of *Romeo and Juliet* is one of the highlights of the Berlin festival



**CD CHOICE**  
Building a Library looks at the best available versions of Debussy's Violin Sonata

## THE TIMES ARTS



**MUSIC**  
Yet another premiere for the Pierre Boulez work that has been 25 years in the making



**TOMORROW**  
Bright hopes at the Barbican: can the City's culture palace finally fulfil its potential?

# Hustler wins a place on the top shelf

The story of porn publisher Larry Flynt has landed Best Film at the Berlin festival. Geoff Brown reports

If you get through this film, you'll never need drugs again: these were the words of the American experimentalist Ken Jacobs, as some of the audience started to shuffle out during *Disorient Express*. Jacobs' film takes a train ride shot early in the century and processes it upside down. In reverse, side by side with its mirror image and, just occasionally, the right way up.

Needless to say, *Disorient Express* was not entered in competition at Berlin: it found its proper niche in the Forum for Young Cinema, famous home of the challenging and the impossible. Those competing for the Golden and Silver Bears were of a more conservative cast. There were too few surprises, and a few too many mechanical exercises, like Claude Berri's Resistance drama *Lucie Aubrac* — two hours of Carole Bouquet and Daniel Auteuil pulling stoned faces.

The jury responded with a mixed bag of prizes. In the absence of any masterpiece, Milos Forman's *The People vs. Larry Flynt* was an acceptable choice as best film, and Tsai Ming-Liang's *The River* is the kind of film for which special jury prizes were invented. As for direction, the suave eccentricity of Raoul Ruiz was well showcased by *Genealogies of a Crime*, although this was scarcely his most engaging film. One wonders too if Eric Heumann's direction of *Port Djema* would have looked so impressive without his use of Angelopoulos's cameraman, Yorgos Arvanitis. The jury's deliberations became particularly perverse over *The English Patient*, which picked up the Best Actress prize, but for the wrong actress: the person you watch is Kristin Scott Thomas, rather than Juliette Binoche.

But there were always exceptions. One might have expected more than a special mention from the jury for *Life is All You Get*, the most sheerly enjoyable competition entry of all. The most surprising, too, since you do not usually look to Germany for best-footed comedy. Wolfgang Becker's film takes a sideways look at love, unemployment and dysfunctional family life in today's Berlin, a city in perpetual flux. But there is enough gossamer film craft, and enough universality to Jürgen Vogel's hero, to make the film travel well.

Critical opinion was more divided over Tsai's *The River*. His first two films, *Rebel of the Neon Gods* and *Vive l'Amour*, established him as a kind of punk Antonioni, brilliant at depicting urban alienation. *The River* follows *Vive l'Amour* by pushing the viewer to the edge of exasperation, but pulls back from the brink through humour, tenderness and an array of sights hard to forget. Male bodies in shadow enjoy themselves in a gay sauna: only gradually do we realise they belong, unwittingly, to father and son. The son is the central character, plagued with mysterious neck pains after immersion in a filthy river. The father's problems relate mostly to the water flooding through the ceiling from the upstairs flat. Is the water a symbol and, if so, of what? No answer is required: this is a Post-Modern art movie, fractured but poignant, fit for the 21st century.

Other Chinese-language competition entries offered less challenging pleasures. *Surveillance*, directed by Huang Jianxin and Yang Yashou, found gentle comedy and romance in a story about two surveillance men locked in a tower waiting for a criminal's appearance. And Yim Ho pleased many with *Kitchen*, a skilfully wrought portrait of the hesitations and confusions of modern relationships.



"In the absence of any masterpiece, *The People vs. Larry Flynt* was an acceptable choice as best film": Courtney Love in the Golden Bear winner

Brazil played a strong hand with Bruno Barreto's *Four Days in September*, a solid, atmospheric, involving account of the kidnapping of American Ambassador in Rio de Janeiro in 1969 by naive young terrorists anxious to make their stand against a repressive regime. Through excellent acting, wry humour and a sharp awareness of human frailty, Barreto achieves what Berri signally fails to do in *Lucie Aubrac*: he makes history relevant. The most energetic entry from the American contingent was William Shakespeare's

THE BERLIN FILM FESTIVAL WINNERS	
Best Film (Golden Bear)	<i>The People vs. Larry Flynt</i>
Special Jury Prize (Silver Bear)	<i>The River</i>
Best Director	Shared by Raoul Ruiz ( <i>Genealogies of a Crime</i> ) and Eric Heumann ( <i>Port Djema</i> )
Best Actor	Leonardo DiCaprio ( <i>William Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet</i> )
Best Actress	Juliette Binoche ( <i>The English Patient</i> )

contemporary Verona Beach. America, home to gas station shootouts, Hispanic frenzy, buzzing helicopters and a camp masked ball. If you

prefer Elizabethan verse spoken with true understanding, this will not be for you. But if you want dynamic images, brazen cheek and two star-crossed lovers jubilant with beauty, youth and passion, Luhrmann and his leads Leonardo DiCaprio (voiced 'Best Actor') and Claire Danes deliver the goods.

New films from Spike Lee and John Singleton gift-wrap less desirable news. *Lee's Get on the Bus* rattled many nerves with its worshipful portrait of African Americans travelling to Washington DC for the Million Man March of

1995. "This whole thing is sexist and exclusionary," one of their wives says in the opening minutes. The grievance aired, Lee feels free to let his all-male busload talk and talk. The film allows a natural outlet for Lee's sermonising, but it hardly makes for compelling drama. The film shines, however, next to Rosewood, John Singleton's overheated response to a recently excavated tragedy of 1922, when racism and envy led to a prosperous black community in Florida being burnt and lynched by white trash. Elsewhere, the American independents plied their trade with the expected films about aimless youth, gender-bending and life's seedier side. In a crowded field, Alex Stiehl's *All Over Me* stood out for its vivacity, technical sheen and sensitivity to the growing pains of teenage girls.

The festival's annual showcase of new German product revealed nothing as impressive as Becker's *Life is All You Get*, and nothing decisive from the old-guard directors. Volker Schlöndorff got himself lost in the portentous Euro-mess of *The Ogre*. Wim Wenders marked time, albeit charmingly, with *The Brothers Skladanowsky*, an impish recreation of the life and works of Berlin's film pioneers who presented their first public programme in November 1895, six weeks before the Lumière show in Paris.

The most prominent German director on show, however, was G.W. Pabst, subject of an excellent retrospective. Pabst is known for a run of classic titles made from the mid-1920s to the early 1930s, including *Pandora's Box*, *Diary of a Lost Girl*, and *Westfront 1918*: films that take a hard look at social conditions on the city streets, in the trenches or down the mines. But during a long career he made much else besides, duly unveiled here, often in new prints.

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CHANGING TIMES

## CONCERTS: Minimal explosions to maximum effect; plus a welcome visitor

A GLANCE at the worklist of Pierre Boulez reveals a disconcerting number of compositions "withdrawn" or "in progress": few composers have been as rigorously, almost obsessively, self-critical. A work of his called *explosions*, for example, was given its world premiere in 1972 by the London Sinfonietta; 25 years on, the same ensemble was giving the London premiere of a work bearing the same name but now appearing in another guise.

The title encapsulates the kinetic/space fields through which the music moves: it belongs, in the phrase of the programme-note writer, Paul Griffiths, "in this energetic state of a trapped detonation". The elliptical dots are thus an integral part of the title, suggesting the unfinished, the continuous, the transitional.

In fact, two of the work's sections are actually called *Transitoire*. They are the two most substantial movements.

## Crème Boulez

London Sinfonietta/  
Benjamin  
Queen Elizabeth Hall

each followed by an *Interstitiel*, and the whole rounded off with an *Original* — a kind of coda that reduces down to melodic essentials. The predominant sonority is that of the flute: a principal flute (played by the excellent Sophie Cherrier) is closely shadowed by two more whose role it is to mediate between the principal and the other members of the ensemble. That instrumentation, together with its computer-enhancement, lends the texture a sensuous quality and an unexpected consistency.

Shortly after the start of the performance, a further reso-

nance was added to the title when George Benjamin's baton exploded, the top part spinning in an arc above the heads of the players, the bottom part, a pencil-length stub, remaining in his hand. With the latter he directed the Sinfonietta in an assured concentrated reading that evoked

the voluptuous tradition of Messiaen and Debussy to which both composer and conductor are heir.

By way of contrast, they captured in the first part of the programme the hard-edged, angular, and the absolute-laced cocktail of three pieces by Stravinsky: the *Tango*, the *Preludium* and the *Ebony Concerto*.

BARRY MILLINGTON

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

### DEBUSSY'S VIOLIN SONATA

Reviewed by Lionel Salter

ON THE outbreak of the First World War, Debussy, once a fervent admirer of Wagner, embarked on a series of six sonatas for different instruments "to give proof that French thought will not be destroyed". He was, however, already terminally ill and was able to complete only three of these, which he patriotically signed as a "musicien français". The Violin Sonata, the third of this group and his last composition, was for long regarded, even by enthusiasts for his music, as evidence of exhaustion and failing powers; but its finesse and leaner, more transparent texture reveal an imaginative concept now recognised as a purification of his style, and its middle movement, a capricious scherzo, is another manifestation of the Pierrot/Harlequin figure then so much in vogue with musicians and painters.

The sonata is essentially an intimate, introspective work, so that extrovert performances, especially if recorded in a large hall or a resonant church, conflict with its basic spirit. The earliest extant recording, made by Thibaud and Cortot in 1929, is available in transfers on three different labels; but that, apart from its frequently ragged ensemble, it should not be looked on as authoritative is suggested by a reading by



Gerard Poulet, the son of the violinist who gave the first performance (with Debussy at the piano) and who allegedly "taught him every detail of it". Too many players disregard the composer's markings of dynamics (particularly of pianissimo) or even reverse them, and though the music needs to be flexible, players are not entitled to introduce rubatos (a term Debussy employs sparingly) at their whim. Transitions between the work's often unpredictable changes of pace (especially in the latter two movements) need to be smooth.

Three outstanding performances, all faithful to the text, convey a dedicated sense of poetry that eludes others. I could happily live with those by Isabelle van Keulen and Ronald Brautigam (on Koch Schwann) or by Kyung-Wha Chung and Radu Lupu (on Decca — one of the many mid-price versions); but for sheer magic I would select Arve Tellefsen and Haas Plasson on the BIS label (CD 28, £14.99).

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## Magic abounding

CBSO/Holliger  
Birmingham

the piano colouring to more or less period proportions, offering an intelligent and generally stylish if somewhat prim account of a piece which requires just a little more wit and daring from its performers.

The open access to the reverberation chamber of Symphony Hall did nothing for the depressingly thick, much-doubled orchestral texture at the beginning of Schumann's Third Symphony. But that is something one just has to accept for the sake of so much that is extraordinarily inspired in the rest of the score. Indeed, by the time Holliger and the CBSO had got to the fourth movement, Schumann's solemn evocation of Cologne Cathedral, those wide-open doors were admitting not only acoustic atmosphere but also a distinct whiff of incense. It was an illusion, obviously, but also an indication of what can be achieved in this work by a frankly honest but unfailingly sympathetic interpretation.

GERALD LARNER





**■ VISUAL ART 1**  
The scandal of the great 1910 Post-Impressionist exhibition is evoked afresh at the Barbican



**■ VISUAL ART 2**  
Bodies beautiful and curious: in Cambridge six artists respond to the male physique

**THE TIMES**  
**ARTS**



**■ VISUAL ART 3**  
Domestic items acquire a strange logic in Eric Bainbridge's new show in Manchester



**■ VISUAL ART 4**  
... while the animal kingdom is explored, in Surreal style, in *The Lost Ark* in Glasgow

## VISUAL ART: Richard Cork on a Barbican homage to pioneers of Post-Impressionism; plus other shows

### Those mad British moderns

Roger Fry wanted his first great Post-Impressionist exhibition to give London a seismic shock. And he succeeded beyond his headiest expectations. Many visitors to the Grafton Galleries, a prominent West End showcase, found themselves reeling at the impact of Cézanne, Gauguin and Van Gogh. The canvases triggered what Fry's collaborator, Desmond MacCarthy, described as "the Art Quake of 1910", and Fry himself likened the "news-paper abuse from all quarters" to "a wild hurricane".

Most of the paintings on view, in a survey where Matisse was seen as the starting-point, had been produced in the 19th century. But to the astounded British public, they seemed like the last word in mad modernity. Nobody could continue to ignore the revolution in European art any longer. However enraged the protests, Fry's show marked a watershed. Between 1910 and the outbreak of the Great War, London became an aesthetic battleground where rival avant-garde groups struggled to outdo each other in provocative boldness.

This is the turbulent subject of the Barbican Art Gallery's latest exhibition. Selected by Anna Gruetner Robins, and based on her detailed research into the flurry of innovative shows staged in London during those four effervescent years, it captures the restless vitality of an extraordinary period. As one of the exhibition's consultants, I must declare an interest. But the achievement belongs to Dr. Robins alone, and she must be congratulated for steering a coherent path through the thickets of controversy sparked by Fry's pioneering initiative.

The British appetite for innovative art was transformed by Fry's 1910 exhibition. Although the Barbican could not hope to reassemble the riches displayed there, it has borrowed some of the key paintings Fry secured for his show. Gauguin's lushly sensual *Tahitian Women Bathing* stands out. But Van Gogh's *Pietà* has all the firmness that prompted some critics to accuse him of insanity, and Cézanne's *The Violator at L'Estaque* possesses the magisterial authority which made Fry hail him as the "father of modern art".

The 1910 exhibition would have a profound effect on a whole generation of young British artists. One painter, however, had already absorbed Post-Impressionist lessons: Augustus John, whose show containing 48 idyllic little oil panels opened in the same month. The lure of commissioned portraits took John in a less adventurous direction, but Cézanne and Gauguin fascinated other, more challenging artists.

When the Stafford Gallery displayed these two masters in 1911, Spencer Gore was quick to paint a delightful picture of connoisseurs appraising the Gauguin exhibits. The Gauguins won over most of the critics who had reviled him in 1910, and five of his pictures now belonged to a major new English collector: Michael Sadler, enthusiastically supported by his son. If our public collections had followed suit, Gauguin would not now be so poorly represented at the National Gallery.

Similar regrets come to mind when we realise just how magnificent Matisse was revealed in London for the first time, and his facility widely acknowledged. Even the most sympathetic reviewers confessed to puzzlement, though. And one painting in particular, his 1909-10 *Woman and Mustard Pot*, became a target for his jokes.

Fry's finest coup lay, however, in his astonishing group of Matisse's. The sublime *Red Studio* was there, containing within its crimson-saturated surface a scintillating summary of the paintings and sculpture he was working on at the time. The first version of *The Dance*, flanked by two of his bronzes, proved how ecstatic Matisse could be when tackling figures on the grand scale. As for *Goldfish and Sculpture*, this strangely submarine canvas showed how far he could simplify line and colour in order to bewitch the eye.

All three of these seductive paintings now belong to the Museum of Modern Art in New York, and could not be lent to the Barbican. But in 1912, when Matisse's prices ranged from £33 to £136, some of his greatest work could easily have been bought by our public collections. The Tate Gallery was so opposed to Matisse that as late as the 1940s it turned down the chance to buy *The Red Studio* itself for a fraction of its daunting value today.

But if our gallery directors and trustees disgraced themselves over Matisse, several British artists in 1912 were quick to learn from him. The most ardent of his admirers, Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant, were included in a special English section of Fry's exhibition. They are both seen at their liveliest in the Barbican, and sometimes come as close to each other as Braque and Picasso in the same year. But Bell and Grant were only part of a substantial home-grown group selected for Fry's show, and two of the others — Wyndham Lewis and Edward Wadsworth — would soon be implacably opposed to the Bloomsbury artists.

The division between them began when the Italian Futurists invaded London. Their 1912 show at the Sackville Gallery proclaimed the importance of the dynamic, machine-dominated power of 20th-century life. Fry hated their blurred, speed-obsessed rhapsodies as much as he deplored their flair for noisy, aggressive publicity. But plenty of British

artists were impressed. Even in Scotland, where Fauvism had already found ardent followers in Fergusson, Peploe and Rice, Stanley Cursiter became converted to the Italians' strident cause for a brief yet crisply energetic period. Other Young Turks, most notably David Bomberg and Henri Gaudier-Brzeska, had no desire to become acolytes of a continental movement. Nor had Wyndham Lewis. His spectacular painting *Kermesse*, originally produced for Madame Strindberg's underground cabaret club *The Cave of the Golden Calf*, stood out in Rutter's show. It confirmed his stature among the Cubist-influenced British artists.

By the time the Whitechapel Art Gallery mounted its ambitious 1914 survey called *Twentieth Century Art: A Review of Modern Movements*, the British contingent had splintered into ever more competitive confusion. Many of the boldest young exhibitors had agreed to join forces with Lewis and found a fiercely rebellious movement of their own. Vorticism was launched, through its truculent magazine *Blast*, just after the Whitechapel show closed in June. The British avant-garde had come of age, but Fry no longer played a role in this final prewar eruption of the revolutionary spirit.

Modern Art in Britain 1910-14 is at the Barbican Art Gallery 0171-638 4141 until May 20



*Smiling Woman Ascending a Stair* (1911-12) by Wyndham Lewis, who helped the British avant-garde to come of age

lent to the Barbican. But in 1912, when Matisse's prices ranged from £33 to £136, some of his greatest work could easily have been bought by our public collections. The Tate Gallery was so opposed to Matisse that as late as the 1940s it turned down the chance to buy *The Red Studio* itself for a fraction of its daunting value today.

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Cambridge provides a showcase for the enduring power of the human figure in the hands of six male sculptors

### Our heavenly bodies

Ever since the dumpy *Woman* from Willendorf was carved in the Palaeolithic period, the figure has provided sculptors with their most abiding obsession. Richard Cork writes. Even in the 20th century, when this automatic dominance was challenged with such vigour, the human form refused to be eclipsed. And now, as the century's end approaches, the body's obstinate ability to endure is celebrated in a stimulating Cambridge show.

All six of the artists selected for the Kettle's Yard exhibition are men. And far from favouring female subjects, like so many sculptors of the past, they focus mostly on the male anatomy. Just how embattled the figure has become in modern sculpture is proved in the first room, where Anthony Caro's early work asserts its potent presence. Caro's figurative pieces of the 1950s have often been overlooked, but these youthful bronzes are hugely impressive.

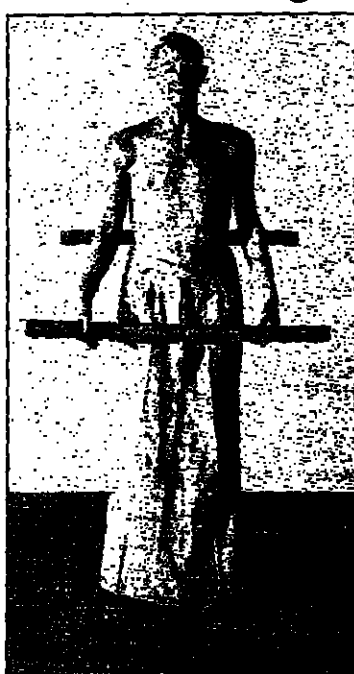
On a small scale, Caro works with great fluidity. *Pulling on a Girde* is a spiralling, robustly modelled distillation of the energy and strain involved in an everyday act. But the larger images possess an authentic grandeur. *Man Taking off his Shirt* is especially powerful, with the rock-like arms projecting into space as forcefully as some of Caro's later, leaner forms.

In his last, the exhibits make us realise how far bodily sensations may continue to inform his seemingly abstract sculpture. But his near-

contemporary, Eduardo Paolozzi, has remained more openly loyal to the figure. His earliest exhibit, *Mr Cruikshank*, was made in 1950 from a model produced to measure irradiation on the human skull. Apart from casting the original wooden head in bronze, Paolozzi did little to change it. Even so, *Mr Cruikshank* looks surprisingly like his later heads, made after the artist returned to figurative concerns in the 1980s. They are more grotesque and, at times, unsettling than their smoothly sectionalised 1950 predecessor.

When Leonard McComb started making his *Young Man Standing* in 1963, British sculptors' interest in the figure was at its lowest ebb. So McComb's determination to produce a lifelike body, based on long scrutiny of a posed model, seemed like an outright act of defiance. Not finally completed in its polished bronze form until 1977, the figure looks stubborn enough as he bunches his right fist and gazes purposefully forward. His air of assurance reflects McComb's own resolve, making a man of gleaming wholeness to prove that sculpture's traditional subject still had resonance.

One young sculptor who emerged in the 1970s shared some of McComb's concerns. *Young Man Standing* looks as if it might have



*Eerie power: Figure With Slats* by John Davies (1973-75)

been cast from life, and parts of John Davies's early figures really are. The impact of his 1972 show at the Whitechapel Art Gallery rested on

the eerie suspicion that the men installed there could be alive. Dressed in worn, ill-fitting suits, the figures seemed to be embroiled in some bizarre, humiliating ritual. One of them, crowned by a large dunce's hat and a false nose, kneels before a couple of battered chairs. He appears to accept a punitive judgment pronounced by the two standing men near by, one of whom has a bird attached to his face.

Later on, Davies moved away from his reliance on casting from life. His big heads of the 1990s at Kettle's Yard are more bland in their expression, and modelled in readiness for casting in bronze. But the sense of strangeness lingers.

Victor Newsome, who also uses the body as a vehicle for emotional privation, is represented by drawings alone. But they are clearly the work of a sculptor — or rather, an artist who turned from sculpture to painting. These drawings mark his period of transition. They look, at first, like studies for carvings in wood. And the blank-faced, mannequin-like female figures they contain seem to be framed by round niches. Then we realise that Newsome might be adopting an aerial view. Seen in this light, the statues are transformed into women lying in baths devoid of

water. Carefully plotted by meticulous lines of measurement, they bear a disconcerting resemblance to corpses.

At least one of the five cast-iron figures in Antony Gormley's room might be dead. He certainly lies on the floor, bent in the middle like the other four occupants of this high, narrow space. The more I looked at him, though, the less cadaverous he became. For his pose is identical to his companions, and they all appear painfully alert. *Testing a World View* is Gormley's collective title for the work, but the prevailing emotion centres on frustration and helplessness. One figure rams his head against the wall, as if longing to break through the room's physical limits. Another adopts a jack-knifed position, with buttocks in the air and toes and forehead touching the floor.

Each of these figures appears enclosed in a mood of extreme isolation, most notably the man who hangs down from a veridigous height on the wall. All cast from Gormley himself, they seem to embody five states of mind. But he removes them from autobiography by stressing their status as simplified images of Everyman, and their rusty, pitted surfaces give them an immortal aura. Based on a living 20th-century nude, they nevertheless reach back to the very origins of sculptural expression.

Bodyworks, supported by the Henry Moore Foundation, is at Kettle's Yard, Cambridge (01223 352124) until Sunday

#### AROUND THE GALLERIES

THE FRONT of a chest of drawers, a complete stuffed chair, shining fluorescent tubes, lamps, sockets, drawers and string — all these are displayed, without reference to good or bad taste, in complete or sawn-up form, in a show of work made by Eric Bainbridge over the past six years. It takes place on all three floors at Cornerhouse, and is almost shocking when viewed for the first time.

But the artist's struggle to read the fine line between expressive decay and delicacy soon becomes apparent. Ultimately this subtle series of arrangements, collages, reliefs and drawings jogs the imaginative memory, and brings back a host of diverse associations. Now and then a small clay figure placed among the objects acts as a decoy, perhaps to wrongfoot any overtly heavy interpretation. *Cornerhouse, 70 Oxford Street, Manchester M1 5NH (0161-228 7621), until March 23*

THE blackened windows at Transmission Gallery in Glasgow convey a sense of expectation. But inside the mixed show, Joy Joy, provides a number of only rather mild diversions. *Painter, a ridiculous spoof video* by Paul McCarthy (1995), has a loony-looking person bashing about with elongated sausage fingers and extended nose. This clown heaves an enormously extended and unwieldy paintbrush with a shorn end, as if it is trapped in a child's gluepot. Such adolescent comment on a supposedly defunct activity manages to redeem itself within the deliberately naïve atmosphere of the show. In Stuart Purdy's *Gerunds*, lumps of valuable-looking stuff are placed on a low-lying table, while David Burrows's *More*

*More More* shows fine comic illustrations cut out and set up in a mock battle of false poses in a sea of scattered powder or flour. Karen Reynolds's *Untitled drawings*, pinned to the left of the entrance, establish the tone with back-of-the-envelope book cartoons and ultimate disposability. *Transmission Gallery, 28 King Street, Trongate, Glasgow G1 5QP (0141-552 4813), until March 15*

IT IS a truism that animals have the potential to be horrible, dangerous, powerful and vengeful. Now an artistic reflection of man's relation to nature has been mounted by the curator Francis McKee, whose exhibition *The Lost Ark* is currently on show at the Victorian vanitas of Simon Costin — in which tableaux of stretched mouse pelt, claw brooch, beaks and stuffed animals make up a scene of strange drawing-room manners — through to Douglas Gordon's *B-Movie*, showing sinister vampire bats and diseased horses projected on a large scale.

The painter Alexis Rockman, whose work seems to lie at the root of the exhibition, is now working in collages of real elements: sand, rocks, dead rat and tubular fish-tank apparatus. One of Rose Thomas's small sculptural pieces shows a wolf having frantic sex with an upturned many-breasted doe, while Kate Smith's soundpiece necessitates active participation to reveal an audio documentary on pigeon-keeping. *Centre for Contemporary Arts, 350 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow (0141-332 7521), until March 8*

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Translated by Christopher Hampton Directed by Matthew Warchus  
Produced by David Pugh and Sean Connery

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CHOICE 1

**The Tate puts some of Turner's 390 watercolours on display**  
VENUE: From today at the Clive Gallery

CHOICE 2

**Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* comes to Newcastle**  
VENUE: This week at the Theatre Royal

THE TIMES ARTS

THEATRE

Critics come under the microscope in a new one-man play for the splendid Brian Cox

POP

In Kentish Town Longpigs show some of the class that has won them a lot of discerning fans

Vitriol personified

There were moments during the packed press night of *Conor McPherson's* one-man play, in which Brian Cox plays a very unpleasant theatre critic, when I felt like yelling: "You'd better watch out, there are a lot more of us here than there are of you down there."  
But who would want to stop that fine actor when he is in full flow? Besides, to describe McPherson's absorbing monologue solely as an attack on reviewers is a bit like seeing *Othello* as an attack on soldiers.  
Cox brings his trademark growl and squashed-heavyweights face to the role of the critic of a leading Dublin paper. The gentleman openly admits to loving power, and he does his best to perpetuate the feeling of fear that grips him whenever he enters a room, by giving cruel, capricious reviews to pretty well every show that comes his way. He spreads misery, he drinks heavily, he hates his wife, he feels envy for those able to write compassionate plays about "queers and lesbians forgiving each other", but he also has a salutary scorn for himself. As Cox brilliantly plays him, he is not the caricature he might have been.  
After a particularly nasty incident in which he has ingratiated himself with partying thespians by pretending to have given their play a rave, he has a brainstorm. Off he goes to London in pursuit of one of the actresses he deceived, arrives hopelessly drunk at her lodgings, and, having caused maximum embarrassment, he makes what those who take a cynical view of critics would regard as a

logical career move. He falls in with a covey of vampires, and spends his evenings tooling into town, picking up beautiful young people, and taking them home to frolic, drink and be bitten.  
What's the point of this switch from natural to surreal model? Maybe McPherson is trying to say something about the corrupting triviality of so much of the art that gets appreciated and eagerly consumed these days. Maybe he



St Nicholas Bush, W12

A blast from the heart

IT IS a measure of how healthy British pop is that a group as outstanding as Sheffield's Longpigs should be enjoying such quiet, if sustained, success. If they had broken through three or four years ago they would surely have been given the full Suede treatment. As it is, they won praise for last year's debut album, *The Sun Is Off*, and are now in the latter stages of a sold-out tour that has consolidated their reputation as one of the most accomplished live acts of the 1990s.  
Singer Crispin Hunt was in a reflective mood at the Forum

Longpigs Forum, NW5

last Thursday, responding at some length to a music paper review which was more about the audience than the band. "Our fans are cool people who make up their own minds," he told the feverishly excited mass of bodies crammed in front of the stage.  
This lot needed no persuading, but it was noticeable that Longpigs took nothing for granted. Pushing off with the slouching rhythm and slightly blurry riff of *Happy Again*, they gradually pieced together a show that was a masterpiece of economy and pacing.  
Momentum was built up by a succession of brilliantly arranged songs — *Lost Myself*, *All Hype and Jesus Christ* — that combined verses of sensitive, aching beauty with choruses that went off like fire alarms in the night.  
As a group whose music is rooted in the classic traditions of harmony-vocal British pop, Longpigs inevitably betray a Beatles influence, which surfaced most noticeably on *For*. But no one could accuse them of simply recycling old ideas. As the pounding beat of *Elvis* began, and an eerie red mist came down, they took off into realms of wonder that were all their own.  
The show climaxed with a slow but immensely powerful version of *She Said* and then an epic encore of *Over Our Bodies*, which ended with Hunt roaming the stage, yelling with vaguely unhinged passion, accompanied only by drummer Dee Boyle. It was a fittingly dramatic end to a stark, purposeful display.

Not a lot of fun at t'mill

**Hard Times**  
Richmond Theatre  
great novel of the machine age into a steamroller rather than a drama. Only Claire Price's Louisa has much in the way of conflict to jam in the spokes of the two self-made northern industrialists, and that, predictably enough, is her damaged self.  
Pomeroy tops and tails scenes with stiff tableaux and stiffer acting. Dermot Walsh's Steary, here an Irish impresario with an unlikely lip, makes a great show of depositing the plot Sissy on Gradgrind's charity. The wail moves over and we barely hear of either again.  
Our focus instead is manipulated by

Gradgrind's repressed children. With a brown set in granite, Louisa matures spookily into a humourless 20-year-old, while her sullen brother Tom (William Oxborrow) degenerates into an equally humourless delinquent. By the time Gradgrind realises he has misjudged a pair of monsters, Bounderby has married one and employed the other.  
Despite the lack of redeeming features, Philip Madoc makes a compelling fist of *Bounderby*. "I'm a genuine scrap of gutter..." he bellows (as he does most of his lines) at Paul Connolly's smooth, cynical swill, Harriehouse. The only actress to give Bounderby's measure is Penelope Fielding's supremely vulgar Mrs Sparsit, who spends the entire play angling for his inexpressible affections. Pitching her performance somewhere between Kenneth Williams and Lady Bracknell, Bounderby's snobby housekeeper subverts the show of brute expediency and moral fervour with camp and comic insincerity. God knows we need some.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER

DAVID SINCLAIR

LONDON

**ART AND ANTIQUES** The Spring Fine Art and Antiques Fair opens today. More than 150 exhibitors are taking part, with categories ranging from contemporary works of art and antiques to glass and ceramics. The Spring Fair is at the Grosvenor Gallery, 10, Grosvenor Gardens, London W1A 3AC. From 11am to 5pm, Sat 11am to 4pm, Sun 11am to 4pm. Entry free.

**LEAP INTO DANCE** Richmond's annual dance festival includes an eclectic programme of performances and workshops. Two evening ones of the country's leading dance education companies. Contemporary dance, jazz, ballroom, and more. Richmond Racecourse, Richmond, Surrey. 7pm to 11pm, Fri & Sat. Tickets £5.

**TURNER'S WATERCOLOUR EXPLORATIONS 1810-1845** A selection of the 320 watercolours painted by the artist. From the Turner Bequest. Tate Gallery, London. 10am to 5pm, Tue to Sat. Free.

**THE CRIPPLE OF IRISHMAN Set on a remote Irish estate, with excellent playing (Richard O'Connell as the young doctor), Martin McDonagh's second play has to be one of the best of the season. National Theatre, London. 7pm, Fri & Sat. Tickets £10.**

**VARIOUS** Rhythm Funnies heads a splendid cast that includes Harriet Walter and Oliver Fawcett. In a London home, a woman's life is explored. Chichester Festival Theatre, Chichester. 7pm, Fri & Sat. Tickets £10.

**KITCHEN** Paul Merton's new play shows four decades of change but no change in the fringes of Dublin. Theatre 503, London. 7pm, Fri & Sat. Tickets £10.

**LAUGHTER ON THE 23RD FLOOR** Mel Simon's funny account of a night on the 23rd floor of a New York hotel. Comedy Theatre, London. 7pm, Fri & Sat. Tickets £10.

**THE SCHOOL FOR WIVES** Peter Boyle's touching and comic play. Royal National Theatre, London. 7pm, Fri & Sat. Tickets £10.

**SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE** Sublime "The Songs of Lester and Stoker" hit. Royal National Theatre, London. 7pm, Fri & Sat. Tickets £10.

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

**ELSEWHERE**  
CARDIFF: Returns only for the evening's revival of Patrick Mason's production of Verdi's powerful story, *Rigoletto*. Welsh National Opera, Cardiff. 7.30pm, Sat. Tickets £10.

**NEWCASTLE** Death of a Salesman. Arthur Miller's classic play. Theatre Royal, Newcastle. 7.30pm, Sat. Tickets £10.

**THEATRE GUIDE**  
Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

**HOUSE** Returns only for the evening's revival of Patrick Mason's production of Verdi's powerful story, *Rigoletto*. Welsh National Opera, Cardiff. 7.30pm, Sat. Tickets £10.

**THE SEAL WIFE** Alton Theatre Co celebrates its tenth year with Sue Glover's touching play. Alton Theatre, Alton. 7.30pm, Sat. Tickets £10.

**THE SLOW DRAG** Kim Cresswell and Nikki Black in a comedy. Comedy Theatre, London. 7.30pm, Sat. Tickets £10.

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WOKING

Scottish Ballet launches the Woking Dance Under 17 today with a double-bill of Boumville's haunting La Sylphide and Robert North's contemporary dance display of music, strength and machismo. Woking Dance, Woking. 7.30pm, Sat. Tickets £10.

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Michael Chambers

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There are still 40 prospective sets of parents for every child that becomes available for adoption (photograph posed by models).

## Adopting new values

**J**illy Cooper starts her novel *Appassionata* with the hero, Rupert Campbell-Black, dashing to Bogotá to buy an adoptive child. By page nine, he has shot at a taxi, beaten up a policeman and decided against a cocaine deal. But we are on his side: his earlier attempts to adopt a British child have been met with "endless KGB-style interrogations by social workers". Will the changes to the Adoption Regulations, announced last week by Stephen Dorrell, the Secretary of State for Health, be sufficient to ease such horrors from our system?

Ministers will recall that previous forays into domestic relations, such as the Child Support Acts 1991-95 and the Family Law Act 1996, brought lightning crashing out of apparently cloudless skies. Are there any votes in adoption, whose numbers were down by 16 per cent in 1995? At 5,000-plus children, that represents one for every ten children in care, or one for every 45 born to unmarried parents — or one for every 30 whose parents were divorced.

Adoption is thus the most precious subject in family law. Demand outstrips supply and we employ an army of officials to referee the competition. Contraception, abortion, acceptance of non-marital and one-parent families, and a policy of patience with regard to children in local authority care, have all militated against parenthood by displace-

### Will government plans for adoption help or hinder? asks Chris Barton

ment. Short of further raids overseas — which would break the Hague Convention — there are only two ways to help to shorten the odds: take more children from their birth parents, and/or open up the stepchild market.

Take more children from their birth parents? That would be the sweetest, privatisation: yet. Our social workers are so unproductive. They are content merely to give away children at an estimated rate of one per 40 customers. Legislation could open up this market, thereby privatising a cost which might otherwise fall on the State. Under the draft Bill, originally intended for last year's Queen's Speech, the welfare of the child would be the "paramount", and not merely the "first" consideration in adoption proceedings. It would extend the criteria in Children Act 1989 proceedings from the usual two customers, the child's parents, to those 40 or so takers for every

child who comes on the market. But instituting paramourism into adoption law could lead to a redistribution of our children. The welfare of the child would sanction not just the adoption order, as at present, but could also initiate the removal of a child from its natural parent(s) and disperse with the need for parental consent.

At the moment, there are two vital bulwarks to prevent adoption being used against any parent(s) whose performance might be bettered. The first is that the natural parent(s) must have voluntarily let their children out of their hands, except where the child is in care. The second is that the harshest ground for the overriding of parental dissent is the parent's unreasonableness, not the paramountcy of the welfare of the child. At its most interventionist, the new approach would require, not merely permit, the court to deprive the original parent(s) of the child, solely by

reference to the welfare principle. Only parents who are rightly confident that no one could raise their children better than they could would be wise to view this

in the light of the enormous growth in activity. He says: "There is a need for better access to information by the LME — more exchange of information between the authorities might have brought the problem to light earlier."

Legal advice to the exchanges tends to come from the blue-chip firms: Linklaters & Paines has a long history of working with the LME and Clifford Chance also advises several commodity exchanges. Lovell White Durrant, meanwhile, has considerable expertise in oil and gas and David Moss, a partner, says that there are periodically disciplinary cases arising out of conduct on the International Petroleum Exchange.

Eric Betelheim, the distinguished commodities lawyer based in the London office of the American firm Mayer Brown & Platt, is confident that the crisis in copper will pass. "The Sumitomo case does not pose a systemic threat to the LME," he says. "The important thing is that Sumitomo was able to meet its obligations. The same thing happened when ING took over Barings. So long as the bills are paid, there is no real problem."

Despite the massive scale of the Hamanaka case, Mr Betelheim regards it with a certain degree of

## Back to futures for the regulators

A Japanese Nick Leeson is on trial for losing billions. Who, Edward Fennell asks, is keeping an eye on the traders?

**I**t was Back to the Futures Market with a vengeance last week with the opening of the Hamanaka trial in Tokyo. Accused of being responsible for unauthorized copper deals which resulted in a \$2.6 billion loss for Sumitomo, Yasuo Hamanaka is starting to look like the main course to Nick Leeson's starter. The fact that both cases are about futures trading and hinge on a London-Far East axis is not coincidental.

Critics in New York, however, of the conduct of the London Metal Exchange (LME) are not regarded too seriously by London lawyers. James Bagge, of Norton Rose, undertakes a lot of regulatory work and says there are limits to what can be expected of the exchanges, especially given that the key players in the Sumitomo case were not members of the exchange. Even so, he considers that exchange regulations may not have kept pace with the enormous growth in activity. He says: "There is a need for better access to information by the LME — more exchange of information between the authorities might have brought the problem to light earlier."

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Despite the massive scale of the Hamanaka case, Mr Betelheim regards it with a certain degree of



weariness. He says: "About once a decade for the past 150 years, someone has tried to corner the market in a major commodity. It always ends in tears."

Mr Betelheim is one of a small group of specialist commodities lawyers based in London. It is a niche area and most of the firms active within it are involved in the Hamanaka affair.

Unlike some of the more mainstream sectors it is possible for very small firms to be engaged in major work and probably the most important recent development was the decision by Richard Black, of the specialists Middleton Potts, to set up his own firm, RD Black & Co, just before Christmas.

Mr Black has made a name for himself as one of the leading commodities lawyers in London but, as he points out, "sometimes one just outgrows the firm one is with. I felt I could provide a better service to my clients and fulfil the talents of my associates by setting up on my own."

Mr Black is unusual in so far as he covers virtually the whole gamut of commodities work from what is regarded as the rather pedestrian "physical" end (transactions associated with the ship-

ping and delivery of commodities) through to the highly volatile derivatives market in which Hamanaka was active.

Most of the physicals work is fairly predictable. As Mr Moss comments: "In general, on the physical side, the issues are fairly stable. It's usually the same old points coming up again and again."

The more edgy work is in the derivatives field where bets are laid, in effect, on the future movement of prices. As Andrew Iyer of Ince & Co points out, it is not in the nature of dealers to check with their lawyers before making innovative or opportunistic deals.

He says: "I've never had a dealer come to me and ask 'Will what I am doing be OK with the regulators?' It is only when things have gone wrong that they ask for advice."

That is why interest has focused so much on the growth of the financial services side of the commodities business.

Mr Moss says: "The world's appetite for financial products is not diminishing. Commodities futures is an important part of that expansion."

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## Data General

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AMEC

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مكذ من راصد







**BY RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT**

## Complaint

**BY OUR RACING STAFF**

like to emphasise that it was the whole procedure that I would like to discuss with Michael Caulfield and Dr Michael Turner on behalf of all jockeys in the future." In a statement issued via his agent, Robert Parsons, he added: "I apologise if in my injured state I caused offence, but I was unhappy with my initial treatment."

Other news from the Kempton meeting concerned Encore Un Peu. The former Martell Grand National favourite, who finished fifth in the Racing Post Chase, returned lame. The ten-year-old, beaten 14 lengths by Rough Cut at Aintree last year, will miss this season's renewal on April 5.

THUNDERER . . .

GOING: GOOD (SOFT IN PLACES)

## 240 \_\_\_\_\_

10-1 others.

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# Dundee stopped on way to promised land

The Road to Damascus was blocked off at Cologne airport yesterday for Sean Dundee when, figuratively, he had one foot aboard the German FA plane for an international in the Middle East. But for injury, Dundee, a South African, would have made his debut for Germany against Israel in Tel Aviv — a most intriguing passport of convenience even by modern sporting standards.

The goalscorer, inevitably dubbed Crocodile, represents either a romantic story, or a cynical example of a sportsman abandoning his country for greater glory and profit.

He was born and raised in South Africa. He had a dream, and remarkable self-confidence, bordering on the delusional, that he would be able to take Craig Johnston from Australia to Liverpool via Middlesbrough. Indeed, Dundee had written to English clubs, none of which responded.

Apparently, in adolescence, his bedroom wall was filled with photographs of Jürgen Klinsmann and Thomas Hässler, and Germany was more welcoming to his talents.

Without a drop of German blood, without a relative or a contact, he worked his passage from Ditzingen, a regional league side, to Stuttgart Kickers, then, two years ago, to the Bundesliga side, Karlsruhe, initially as an amateur.

With passes from Hässler, he quickly fulfilled himself. In his first season, "Crocodile" Dundee netted 16 goals. In his second, he is the league's leading scorer, with 14 goals at the halfway stage of the season.

On December 17, ten days after his 24th birthday, Dundee was officially declared a German citizen. Last season, Bernd Vogts selected him in the squad for Tel Aviv where, aside from a football match, the German players are to be used as ambassadors, visiting the Holocaust memorial Yad Vashem today.

The white South African with red hair, freckles and an earring, should have been among them. He wanted to travel even though he badly bruised his right calf against VfB Stuttgart on Saturday. Vogts wanted

ROB HUGHES



Overseas View

to take him for the experience, but Dr Hans-Wilhelm Müller-Wohlfahrt advised that the four-hour plane journey was anathema to a muscle injury.

So, forlornly, Dundee drove back to the Lower Rhine for treatment. Vogts told him: "Keep your head up, your health comes before everything. It's not the end of the world. You'll get your chance."

Meanwhile, taking that chance, will be Dariusz Woz, the diminutive playmaker from Bochum, a player born in Poland, capped by East Germany, and now ready to make his first appearance for the combined Germany side on Israeli soil.

It becomes ever more difficult to decide a man's birthright when sporting fortunes are to be made. Even Germany's politicians are divided on the Bonn parliament decision to rush Dundee through the "fast track" procedure that grants nationality quickly to foreigners as a matter of "public interest".

Were you or I to queue for a dozen years, we would not get a German passport — unless you are rather better than me at putting the ball in the net. If political refugees in fear for their lives knocked at Germany's border, they might, after lengthy interrogation, be granted a temporary compassionate stay.

Dundee bypassed the process because Germany covets his finishing touch. They wanted him in South Africa, too. Last year, before the African Cup of Nations opened in Johannesburg, Dundee's absence was lamented by his countrymen.

They had called him home, but he declined, just as in 1995, Dundee had given a lame excuse of injury for failing to make a South Africa debut, ironically against Germany.

South Africans, some of them, actually felt sorry for Dundee. They thought him a misguided young man, chasing the impossible notion, and missing out on the euphoria of the national cup. Dundee had heard that Vogts looked favourably upon his scoring consistency.

Indeed, he did. "The important thing for me is who is top of the scoring charts," Vogts said. "Dundee is dynamic, he is a great header of the ball, he is totally selfish. I hope he keeps his career nature, but all strikers are basically selfish."

Dundee still wishes to complete the dream of sharing goals with Klinsmann for the new nation. However, while he rests his calf, Oliver Bierhoff, whose goals won the European championship, is fit and scoring again while big Fredi Bobic, a rapacious scorer for VfB Stuttgart, needs to impress in the national team.

Then there is Heiko Herrlich, of the champions, Borussia Dortmund, and Ulf Kirsten, the former East German leading Bayer Leverkusen.

Temporarily off the scene, Dundee cannot now get another chance until the World Cup qualifying match against Albania in Tirana on April 2.

Meanwhile, in the real world, he stores up envy and enemies. Newspapers splash his love affairs on their front page, and on the back there are rumours that Bayern Munich plan to replace Klinsmann with the Crocodile Kid.

If and when things sour in his new existence, there may be no going back, for some South Africans regard him as a deserter.



Dundee celebrates a goal during his prolific career in Germany

## Stockport aim to provide sound surface

By PETER BALL

STOCKPORT County's Coca-Cola Cup run to tomorrow's semi-final against Middlesbrough has had its cost. Stockport are spending some £12,000 relaying a third of the Edgeley Park playing area to make sure that the first leg goes ahead after being postponed last week.

The work started last Thursday, and will be completed in time for the cup tie tomorrow. Many second division teams playing a Premiership side might have been tempted to hope for a poor pitch, but that is not Stockport's way.

"We want a good pitch," David Jones, the impressive young Stockport manager, said yesterday. "We like to play football, and we think that is our best chance of beating Middlesbrough."

Having had to postpone this game from its original date, after a postponement of the fourth-round tie with West Ham United, and a replay at Southampton, the little Cheshire club are facing a serious fixture pile-up, which could hamper their main ambition, reaching the first division rather than Wembley.

They and Wrexham, whose FA Cup run has brought similar problems, contacted the Nationwide Football League seeking help, along with Middlesbrough, who are scheduled to play Northern Ireland's World Cup qualifying matches with Portugal and Ukraine will disrupt their Easter programme, with Lomas, Horlock, Whitley and Tommy Wright all likely to be in Bryan Hammett's squad.

While there is no Premiership programme on Easter Monday, and most of the Premiership fixtures originally planned for Easter Saturday have been played ahead of schedule, there is a full Nationwide League programme on both days. "Although we knew it was a World Cup week, we did not have specific dates when our fixtures were arranged," Chris Hull, a League spokesman, said yesterday.

The fact that both Northern Ireland and Scotland are playing on the Saturday and then again a few days later means we will lose the weekend as well as the following midweek. "It becomes an even more difficult balancing act for us, but we feel that there will be no real problem in fitting in all the games. There is no question of the Football League extending the season beyond the final scheduled weekend of May 3 and 4."

Manchester United are giving David May, their central defender, every chance of regaining full match fitness in time for the European Cup quarter-final first leg with FC Porto at Old Trafford next week. May, who made a brief appearance as a substitute at Chelsea on Saturday, will play in the reserves against Nottingham Forest tomorrow and in the first team against Coventry on Saturday, even if Roome Johnson has recovered from his leg injury.

Norwich, who play at Southend tonight, hope to have bolstered their leaky defence by signing Kevin Scott, from Tottenham Hotspur, for £250,000.

In the second division, Burnley go to Blackpool in the throes of an injury crisis for a Lancashire derby still full of resonance. Burnley need to revive their faltering play-off hopes, but will have to do so without Weller, Smith and Gledhill of their regular midfield. "We've very short of options in the middle of the park," Adrian Heath, the Burnley manager, said.

## Keller juggles divided loyalties across the Atlantic

Richard Hobson talks to a goalkeeper for whom success is not without its problems



Keller in demand

Kasey Keller is a man in a dilemma, a hostage to the success of club and country. His consistency in England has helped him to become the No 1 goalkeeper with the United States national team, but there is a drawback. His diary is swelling with appointments on both sides of the Atlantic and Keller is not sure where his priority lies.

He is passionate about Leicester City, who turn their attention towards the FA Cup tomorrow night, when they visit Chelsea in a fifth-round replay, and who still harbour hopes of reaching Wembley in the Coca-Cola Cup. Meanwhile, the United States have reached the last qualifying stage in their North and Central America region for the 1998 World Cup finals and face ten games this year

to determine whether they will feature in France. Unfortunately for Keller, those internationals do not coincide with similar midweek games in Europe.

"I am in one place, I always seem to be thinking about the other," Keller said. "I was in America the day before our game against Guatemala last year when I heard that Leicester had lost 2-0 to Derby and it was a huge distraction. It must have been the first time anybody has been so disappointed so close to his debut

in the biggest competition in the world."

Such concerns are felt in reverse, too. Last month, he was allowed to miss a four-country tournament in the United States to remain in Leicester. In so doing, he gave Brad Friedel, his closest rival, the opportunity to push his own claims for more important games.

Thus it was that Keller considered returning home last year for the first season of the new professional league. "In many ways, it would have been a retrograde step because the quality of football in England is much higher, but it would have solved the problem,"

he said. On this occasion, the matter was resolved for him when Major League Soccer, which contracts star players centrally before allocating them among its ten clubs, declined to meet Millwall's asking price of \$1.5 million. Leicester had no such qualms about paying the English equivalent of around £800,000 in the summer.

His reputation remains untainted by his commitments in England. "Football is growing back home and there is a bit of mystique about me because I am hardly there," he said. "Before Guatemala, I realised I had become the folk

hero of the football sub-culture. It gave me a certain aura, but it is not something I would try to cultivate. Such words reveal something of Keller's academic background. He studied sociology at the University of Portland in Oregon, and was close to completing his degree, which included a dissertation on African history, when he accepted an offer from Bruce Rioch, then the Millwall manager, who had spotted him on a coaching trip to the United States. Since then, Keller, 28, has taken correspondence courses.

Not that his knowledge of social science has been of much use in deciphering the intricacies of life in an English football dressing-room. "In class, you deal with what people are supposed to do, footballers usually seem in bit of the

opposite," he said. "If I say to somebody: 'You should not have done that, I get a look back as if to say: 'What are you on?'"

Keller was 14 when he stopped playing basketball competitively and enrolled at Portland because it was one of the few universities where soccer took priority. He said: "Most professional sportsmen back home come through the college system. A good sports facility can bring in big bucks for the university, so we were treated like professional sportsmen rather than students. There was a lot of media interest and the standing joke was that I was the most overpaid guy on local television after the Portland Trailblazers basketball team." Now the spotlight is swinging his way again.

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BRIMMINGHAM AAA indoor championship: Boys under-15 pentathlon: 1. Courtney (Oxford) 2. 7.78.00. 3. McGovern (Leamington) 2.00.00. 4. 1.00.00. 5. 1.00.00. 6. 1.00.00. 7. 1.00.00. 8. 1.00.00. 9. 1.00.00. 10. 1.00.00. 11. 1.00.00. 12. 1.00.00. 13. 1.00.00. 14. 1.00.00. 15. 1.00.00. 16. 1.00.00. 17. 1.00.00. 18. 1.00.00. 19. 1.00.00. 20. 1.00.00. 21. 1.00.00. 22. 1.00.00. 23. 1.00.00. 24. 1.00.00. 25. 1.00.00. 26. 1.00.00. 27. 1.00.00. 28. 1.00.00. 29. 1.00.00. 30. 1.00.00. 31. 1.00.00. 32. 1.00.00. 33. 1.00.00. 34. 1.00.00. 35. 1.00.00. 36. 1.00.00. 37. 1.00.00. 38. 1.00.00. 39. 1.00.00. 40. 1.00.00. 41. 1.00.00. 42. 1.00.00. 43. 1.00.00. 44. 1.00.00. 45. 1.00.00. 46. 1.00.00. 47. 1.00.00. 48. 1.00.00. 49. 1.00.00. 50. 1.00.00. 51. 1.00.00. 52. 1.00.00. 53. 1.00.00. 54. 1.00.00. 55. 1.00.00. 56. 1.00.00. 57. 1.00.00. 58. 1.00.00. 59. 1.00.00. 60. 1.00.00. 61. 1.00.00. 62. 1.00.00. 63. 1.00.00. 64. 1.00.00. 65. 1.00.00. 66. 1.00.00. 67. 1.00.00. 68. 1.00.00. 69. 1.00.00. 70. 1.00.00. 71. 1.00.00. 72. 1.00.00. 73. 1.00.00. 74. 1.00.00. 75. 1.00.00. 76. 1.00.00. 77. 1.00.00. 78. 1.00.00. 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# Mijnders looking after Oxford's interest

David Miller considers the latest cosmopolitan effort by the Dark Blues to reverse their stubborn losing sequence in the University Boat Race.

Rowing in Great Britain has an open-minded, international outlook on coaching that is a lesson to other sports. Bob Janusek, from Czechoslovakia, radically expanded horizons 20 years ago, while Jürgen Grobler, from the former East Germany, has been the brains behind the success of Steve Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent in, not least, two Olympic Games. Now Oxford have Rene Mijnders, for ten years the head coach and technical director to the Holland national team.

Realising, after a fourth consecutive defeat, last year, the extent of the technical gulf between the historic Boat Race rivals, Dan Topolski, for so long the Oxford guru, asked Mijnders if he would help Oxford to stop the rot. The Holland eight had just won the gold medal at the Olympics in Atlanta and Mijnders was anxious for fresh fields. Financially unambiguous, he was seeking new experience rather than commercial reward.

"The Boat Race has a special magic you can find nowhere else in the world," Mijnders said yesterday at the announcement of the crews for an event, sponsored by Beefeater, that continues to hold its place among the top ten of sports live television audiences: last year seven million. "It

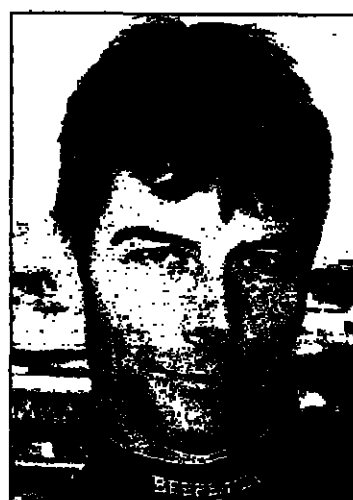
is the most famous of races, even though foreigners know little of the detail and background."

Of regular events, only the Grand National, the men's singles final at Wimbledon, the FA Cup Final and one or two matches of the five nations' championship have regularly surpassed the Boat Race audience, so sustaining present figures at the time of declining audiences is testimony to the continuing appeal of this idiosyncratic British occasion.

As the new head coach at Oxford, Mijnders is hard at work with a crew of formidable potential, though not without that slight undercurrent of in-house controversy that often characterises this race.

The massive 15st Roberto Blanda, from the Italy Olympic eight, and Luka Grubor, of Croatia, were able to produce academic qualifications that, having fallen short of the rigours of Cambridge tutorial standards, managed to satisfy those at the other place. Oxford's pursuit of former eminence, created by Topolski, is indeed earnest.

"It was such a deep trough [we



Mijnders head coach

were in]," Topolski said. "Rene is brilliant on technique, so I went and got him. He wanted other things. Already he's produced an easy flexibility in the crew, with confidence and blend."

Mijnders, a world championship

contender in coxed fours in the mid-80s, has the relaxed mood of famous Dutch football coaches, such as Rinus Michels and Leo Beenhakker.

"What I especially like is the mixture in the group, high class rowers and younger, promising juniors," Mijnders said. "It's a very healthy environment for improvement and the standard is higher than I expected. Their boat speed is close to the Dutch eight, though I don't think they're Olympic champions! They are young, which means they are eager and quick to listen and learn."

Andrew Lindsay, 20, a bronze medal-winner in British junior eights three years ago, who has been working in Africa for a year before arriving at Brasenose, is fit in yet is dwarfed by Blanda, Grubor and James Roycroft, all of whom stand 6ft 6in. Height and reach, if coordinated, have no disadvantages over limit in rowing, because less compression of trunk and legs is then required on the sliding seat to achieve length of stroke.

"The less you are compressed, the more explosive your stroke can be,"

Topolski said. This will be one of the biggest crews ever.

Mijnders agrees, but makes the contrasting point that big men tend to be lazy, relying on their size, and that the shorter oarsman is accustomed to having to be more competitive. The combination of Mijnders's technique and Topolski's unrivalled tideway knowhow could, indeed, be formidable.

"If [Oxford's acquisitions] will make it very tough for us," Robin Williams, the Cambridge coach, said. "They've got the edge in power... but only an edge. Having Tim Foster [regarded as one of the best coxswains in Britain] is really valuable to them. We know what we have to do."

Mijnders said that his focus is on efficiency in technique rather than sheer strength. It is a view that those who appoint national coaches in football, cricket and tennis would do well to heed.

Beefeater, whose enthusiasm as sponsor remains undiminished, is intending to turn the day into something of a carnival, broadening the appeal of a day out by the river. "We want to attract a younger element and more tourists for the occasion," a spokesman said. For the first time, details of the race will be available on the Internet.

## GOLF: PRECISION ON GREENS THE KEY TO RARE SUCCESSFUL DEFENCE OF PRESIDENT'S PUTTER

# Rotheroe's accuracy swells Rye's elite ranks

By JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

THE ferries, their hatches well battened down, ploughed through the choppy Channel, and in Rye harbour the fishermen declined to put to sea and face winds of 75mph. On shore, meanwhile, the President's Putter ended at Rye when Charlie Rotheroe successfully defended his title, beating Simon Ellis 3 and 2.

Rotheroe's was not a unique achievement because four men had done it before him, but it was certainly an unusu-

al as Rotheroe's successful defence was the absence of dogs. Usually, the final attracts a collection of retrievers and black labradors who give every impression of taking their elderly owners for a gentle afternoon walk. Perhaps their absence was because the final was held on a Monday, not a Sunday.

Ellis plays off one, Rotheroe off plus one. Ellis has a grip that purists might cavil at, with his right index finger down the shaft, while Rotheroe appears effortlessly classical, a neat and tidy swinger and dresser and a powerful hitter. It was a pleasure to watch two men playing so quickly and well on a day when the south wind rushed in at 40mph even on land.

Ellis, 32, has a reputation for being an uneasy putter, a reflection on him rather than the quality of Rye's excellent greens. On the 7th, he had a chance to go two up, but made a nervous stab there and on the 8th. To make matters worse, Rotheroe putted beautifully, with a backswing so low that his club-head rarely seemed to be off the ground. Rotheroe's deadly putting contributed to his defeat of Andy Woolnough in the morning semi-final and underpinned his victory over Ellis.



Rotheroe, who became only the fifth player to retain his title, watches as Ellis putts on the 10th yesterday

Ellis could have won the 10th, and should have won the 11th when Rotheroe hit a quick hook that whizzed between the legs of one spectator and hit another in the back. Ellis missed another short putt on the 13th, and now Rotheroe was two up.

Perhaps Ellis was a little unlucky on the 15th, when Rotheroe's seven-iron pitch and run from 50 yards crashed into the flagstick. This was his third stroke on the hole and Ellis's mistake thereafter was to chip poorly and putt poorly — again.

The end was nigh. On the 16th, Ellis hit a fine second shot to the back of the green and then watched in horror as his first putt stopped 2½ feet or so from the flag. This was precisely what he did not want. He had missed so many of them and, sure enough, this

putt caught the back of the hole and kicked away. Ellis proved one of golf's oldest maxims: that you can get away with crooked driving and can hit poor second shots, but if you cannot hole putts then you are making life very difficult for yourself.

## SNOOKER: BRITON BOWS OUT WITH BAD GRACE IN FIRST-ROUND SURRENDER

# Petulant O'Sullivan hits pique form

FROM PHIL YATES IN VALETTA

THE petulance that periodically resurfaces in the psyche of Ronnie O'Sullivan cost him a place in the Malta Open here in Malta yesterday. O'Sullivan was beaten 5-1 by Chris Small in the first round of the world-ranking tournament.

Trailing 4-1, O'Sullivan displayed a total disregard for his position as one of the game's leading lights by all but shoul-

dering arms. By indiscriminately powering the balls around the table, and attempting outlandish pots, he also lost the respect of many among the sizeable crowd.

"He should have at least put up a show for them. It is obvious they came to see Ronnie, not me," Small, a Scot with a methodical approach, said. "These antics happened when I was 4-1 up so he should have given me a bit of respect as well."

O'Sullivan, who showed a

similar attitude when losing in a number of first-round matches last season, has benefited from a much greater degree of commitment this campaign, and as a consequence, has captured the Asian Classic and German Open titles.

As no player has prevailed at all four overseas ranking events in the same season, O'Sullivan should have been highly motivated to complete the third leg of a potential grand slam. Instead he offered only token resistance. "I am playing terribly and I couldn't wait to get out of there," O'Sullivan said. "I hate the game — I don't want to play any more."

The natural ability of O'Sullivan, who once said that he was contemplating retirement after a quarter-final defeat by Ken Doherty in the 1994 United Kingdom Championship, is matched only by his unpredictability. One day he is at peace with the world, the next he believes it to be against him.

Small, responsible for the elimination of Steve Davis from the second round of the International Open in Aberdeen last week, recovered from the loss of the first frame with runs of 45, 79 and 44 as he moved 4-1 ahead before O'Sullivan's ball-thrashing shattered his opponent's concentration.

"I didn't know what was going on," Small, who made a series of mistakes before winning the sixth frame on the

pink, said. "I found it difficult to deal with." Small goes forward to meet his compatriot, Euan Henderson, or James Wattana, of Thailand. O'Sullivan flew home.

Darren Morgan, who has often been accused of trying too hard, ended a depressing sequence of five consecutive defeats by beating Anthony Hamilton 5-3. Morgan, the No 9 seed, who compiled breaks of 65, 64 and 53, will now meet Alan McManus or Darren Clarke in the last 16.



O'Sullivan: yielded

Steve Davis, who earlier in the month ended two years without a title by triumphing at the Benson and Hedges Masters, still found himself the victim of a totally unexpected 5-0 first-round whitewash against Stephen Lee, the world No 31 from Trowbridge — even though the former world champion's desire to win was obvious.

## ICE HOCKEY

By A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

# Storm breeze into play-offs in style

MANCHESTER Storm have not enjoyed unalloyed success during their first season at the top level of the British game. They did, however, complete their Superleague programme on a high note at the Nynex Arena on Sunday in front of a British record crowd of 17,245 with a 6-2 victory over Sheffield Steelers.

After Ron Shudra had given the visitors the lead in the fourth minute, Stephen Cooper and Brad Turner struck back for Manchester, but a goal for Sheffield by Frank Kovacs late in the first period saw the teams go in for the first interval with the score tied at 2-2. Thirteen seconds after the break, Mike Morin put Manchester ahead again and goals by Nick Peole, Morin and Jeff Lindsay in the third period completed a memorable victory that will put the Storm in good heart for the play-offs, which begin later this week.

Ayr Scottish Eagles also appear to be running into form at the right time, having followed their away victory over Nottingham Panthers with their biggest win of the season, 10-2 at home to Basingstoke Bison, a result which confirms Bison in bottom place. In front of a more modest full house of 2,733, Ayr skated to a 4-0 lead in the first

16 minutes and kept up the pressure throughout, raining a total of 59 shots on Lloyd Clifford in the visitors' goal. Scott Young and Markus Berwanger each scored twice for Ayr.

Bracknell Bees, away to Newcastle Cobras, had shocked Cardiff Devils, the

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cardiff	42	30	3	9	1205	130	64
Sheffield	42	27	4	11	1168	127	60
Ayr	42	21	6	15	1071	157	48
Nottingham	42	21	12	9	1160	147	45
Newcastle	42	17	2	23	1150	172	41
Bracknell	42	15	2	25	1182	202	33
Manchester	42	14	3	25	1142	191	32
Basingstoke	42	11	3	28	1152	202	28

CL column indicates games lost in overtime. Teams are awarded one point for each loss

new champions, on Saturday night, took full advantage of penalties to their opponents, scoring five power-play goals in their 8-4 victory. Bracknell's main scorers were Dale Junkin with two goals and two assists and Shane McCosk, who contributed four assists.

The eight Superleague teams now divide into two groups of four for the championship play-offs, the top two in each group qualifying for the semi-finals at the Nynex Arena at the end of March.

# A great aunt from Hell

Interval: News from North Britain, Radio 3, 8.35pm

This 20-minute short story slot during the evening chamber music concert is finding some excellent stories. Tonight's is *Willmen's Metaphor* by the Glasgow journalist Beatrice Colvin and concerns a young boy, Robert, who is sent to stay with his Great Aunt Willmen's while his parents take a holiday. Willmen's is a reluctant boy, eccentric, the story begins with Willmen's and the reluctant boy carrying out an armed robbery ("she whipped an ancient hunting rifle from the depths of her rack of trunks"). Willmen's is also given to striding naked through the garden of her mansion or shouting abuse at Noel Edmonds on television: "You look like a hammer with a lobotomy."

Novel America: *Tales of the City*, Radio 4, 10.00am (FM)

The prospect of a series in which someone "encounters America for the first time" can produce a groan even in polite company, for surely we have been this way before. But of course the success of these projects depends upon who is doing the encountering and how. Martin Wainwright is the travelling reporter and he finds fresh insights by using as a platform four American novels. The series is in effect a search for real examples of fictional characters and the peg is about enough to support a goodly cluster of insights. This morning's opener has Wainwright in San Francisco, the setting for Armistead Maupin's novels featuring Mary Ann Singleton. Peter Barnard

## RADIO 1

7.00am Mark Radcliffe 8.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whiteley 12.30 The News 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Kevin Greening 6.15 Newsbeat 6.30 Evening Session 8.30 John Peel 10.30 Anne Hobbs 1.00am Celeste Sorguss 4.00 Olly Murs

## WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. News on the hour. 5.30am Europe Today 7.15 On the Shelf 7.30 News Ideas 7.50 Portrait of the Artist 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 A History of World Business Report 9.15 Just a Minute 9.45 Sport 10.30 English 10.45 On the Shelf 11.30 Mendham Features 12.00am World Business Report 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Letters Home 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Maltbrack 2.05 Sport 2.15 What's News 3.30 Newsweek 4.15 World Today 4.30 BBC English 4.45 Britain Today 5.30 World Business Report 6.45 Sport 6.30 Letters Home 7.07 Outlook 7.25 Words of Faith 7.30 Megamix 8.05 World Mexican Feature 10.30 World Today 10.45 Sport 11.10 Voices 11.15 What's News 11.30 Megamix 12.00am Folk Routes 12.45 Britain Today 1.30 Outlook 1.55 Words of Faith 2.30 Composer of the Month 3.15 Sport 3.30 Meltdown On Screen 4.30 Europe Today

## RADIO 2

6.00am Alan Lister 7.30 Wake Up To Wogan 8.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 John Humphrys 1.30pm Debbie Throver 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 Chris Settle 7.00 Hays over Britain 8.30 A Town Like Alice. Mavis Shale's classic tale dramatised by Moya Shee. With Bernard Hepton and Virginia McKenna (46) 9.00 The Ray Charles Story. Charlie Gillett presents a guide to the career of the "father of soul" and tells the story of his turbulent life 10.00 The Prohibition Years (2/3) 10.30 The Jamzone 12.00am Charlie News 3.00 Steve Madder

## RADIO 5 LIVE

8.00am Morning Reports 8.30 The Breakfast Programme, includes Racing Preview 9.00 The Magazine 12.00 Midday with Mark 2.00pm Russell on Five 4.00 John Inverdale 5.00pm News 7.00 News Extra 7.35 The Tuesday Match. Coverage of tonight's action presented by Ian Carter 10.00 News Talk with Nigel Cassidy 11.00 News Extra with Valerie Sifford 12.00am After Hours with Vincent Heavis 2.05 Up All Night with Fred Shapp

## TALK RADIO

5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy War 7.00 Paul Ross 8.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Stone 7.00 Paul Coyne 7.00am Sportscaster 10.00 James White 1.00am Ian Collins

## CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths 6.00 Including Breakfast, Baroque 8.00 Harry Kelly 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto Mozart's Piano Concerto No 20 in D minor, 3.00 7.00 News Extra 7.35 The Tuesday Match. Coverage of tonight's action presented by Ian Carter 10.00 News Talk with Nigel Cassidy 11.00 News Extra with Valerie Sifford 12.00am After Hours with Vincent Heavis 2.05 Up All Night with Fred Shapp

## VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 11.30am 10.00 Graham Doherty 1.00pm Jeremy Clark 4.00 Kelly Stone 7.00 Paul Coyne 7.00am Sportscaster 10.00 James White 1.00am Ian Collins

## RADIO 3

8.00am On Air with Andrew McGregor, includes Handel's *Concerto in B flat for a Due Cello* (HWV332); Schumann's *Symphonic No 3 in E flat* (Op 54); Elgar's *Pastoral* (Op 69); Debussy's *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune* (Op 64); Dvořák's *Symphony No 8 in D* (Op 78). 2.35 *Essential*, Penny Gore introduces a selection by Lucy Jess, violin, and Julian Milford, piano. Mozart's *Mozart in C* (K 595); Brahms's *Violin Sonata No 2 in A* (Op 102); Ravel's *Tzigane* (Op 102). 3.30 *Bournemouth Sinfonietta* (R) 5.00 *Musical Machines*, Charles Hazlewood talks to Roderick Swinson about the history of background music from Bach to Monty Python. 5.15 In Tune, with Geoffrey Baskerville. Includes Albert (Rhapsodie Espagnole); Caplet (Two Serenades); Britten (Cello Symphony).

## RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW) 6.00 News 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, includes Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 9.00 News 9.05 Coll Nick Ross 10.00 News 10.05 Novel America (FM) 10.10 Daily Service (LW) 10.15 On This Day (LW) 10.30 Women's Hour, with Jenni Murray 11.30 *Medicine Now*, with Geoff Watts 12.00 News You and Yours, with Lesley Riddoch 12.25pm Booked! Ian McEwan is joined by John Hargley, Mark Thomas, Miles Kingston and Dile Kassar for the unusual look at literature 12.55 Weather

1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke 1.40 The Archers (I) 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News, Facts, Feasts and Festivals: Ramadan 2.30 But I Know What I Like. The pianist David Owen Norris talks to and accompanies the opera singer Felicity Lott in some of her favourite pieces of music (3/6) 3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Doreen Beresford 4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Vaughan sees a new play by the Irish playwright Ciarán McKeown about a theatre critic who falls in love with an actress 4.45 Short Story: Two Presents and a Billy Goat, by Alan Bala, Read by Gerard McSorley 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 Sources of One's Own, by Ivan Shakespeare. The comedy series that parodies the life and times of the Elizabethan dramatist, with Neil Ashdown and Matthew Bell (I) 7.00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.20 File on Four, with Julian O'Halloran. An important issue of the week 8.00 Science Now, with Peter Dinkley. A roundup of scientific news (I) 8.30 The Roth Lectures. The American Professor Patricia J. Williams discusses the role of race and ethnicity in the first of this year's five lectures 9.00 In Touch, Peter White with news for visually impaired people 9.30 Kaleidoscope (I) 9.55 Weather 10.00 The World Tonight, with Isabel Hilton 10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Great Railway Bazaar, by Paul Theroux, read by William Hurt (2/10) (I) 11.00 *Midnight*, with Vincent Hanna (I) 11.30 Word of Mouth (FM). Russell Davies explores words and the way we speak. This week he looks at names and the dilemma of naming children (2/6) (I) 11.30 Today in Parliament (LW) News from Westminster 12.00 News 12.27am approx Weather 12.30am The Late Book: I Am Still the Greatest, by Johnny Angelo, by Nick Cohn, Read by John Gurnea (2/3) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 AM World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1 FM 97.9-99.8. RADIO 2 FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3 FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4 FM 92.4-94.6. LW 108.1-108.9 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8. MW 1197. 1215. TALK RADIO. FM 103.3. 105.3. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dean, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Sedgill, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McManus.

## WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 42

ILLUK

(c) The name used in Sri Lanka (Ceylon) for a coarse grass, *Imperata cylindrica*. The Sinhalese word. "The grass of Talawa is usually long and coarse, very different from the average pataz grass. The best known species are *mahna* and *illuk*."

MOOTAH

(b) Or *mooter*, marijuana. US slang, origin unknown. "All the time he was in the asylum he kept waiting for a big train to pull in with a cartload of *moots* just for him."

KARABINER

(c) A coupling device consisting of a metal oval or D-shaped link with a gate protected against accidental opening. A mountaineering gadget. A shortened form of the German *karabiner-haken* a sping-hook. Chris Bonington, 1973: "A jerk — you drop three inches. But you're alive! The knot in the sling attached to the karabiner in your waist harness has jammed on the gate of the karabiner, and had then freed itself, letting you drop those few inches."

MUSEAU

(a) A person's face. From the French for the muzzle or snout of an animal. A favourite word of D. H. Lawrence. Eg in *St Mawr*, 1925: "She, with her odd little museau, not exactly pretty, but very attractive."

## SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1... Nxb2 and if 2 Kxb2 Rb6+ or 2 Qxb2 Rb6 winning the white queen in both cases.



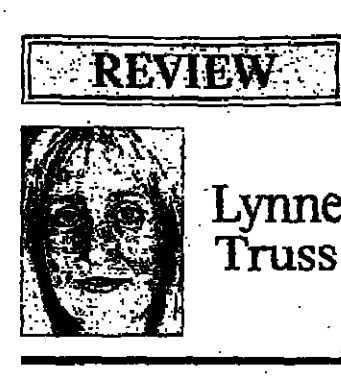
# Who was that moon-booted ice tucker man?

The neurotic reaction is unavoidable. A series called *Ray Mears' World of Survival* (BBC2) Up in the frozen shiver of anxiety through the body. Who is Ray Mears? Should I know who he is? Does everybody except me know who he is? He was in *Tracks*, comes the answer. "He is a survival expert. He can skin rabbits and stuff like that." It's just so worrying when people get their names in titles and they're not Alec Guinness or Jeremy Clarkson. Calling this series *Ray Mears' World of Survival* is a bit of a challenge; it's the equivalent of a first novel appearing straight on the "bestseller" shelf in a bookshop, so that the consumer is caught on the back foot. "How on earth," one asks, rubbing one's head, "did this famed Ray Mears pass me by?"

Actually, you wouldn't want to miss this series. It fills the gap left by *Desert Island Discs* ever since Sue Lawley stopped even feigning interest in the question "could you build a shelter?" Up in the frozen Arctic for the first instalment, Mears joined various Inuits for igloo-construction lessons; he also watched them hunt, fish, catch seals, and make fluffy bonnets from the fur of caribou. The igloo-building revealed an unexpected drawback for people of a sensitive disposition: ice blocks make the same sound as polystyrene — squeak, creak, squeak. This is bad news for any Arctic dweller whose nerve-ends revolt at the sound of fingernail on blackboard. "No, I'll be all right," they call from the dog sled (fatally). "I've got a blanket here somewhere!"

The bad news for Mears himself was that, encased head to toe in his caribou ensemble, he was still as unknown by the end of the programme as at the beginning. He was just a big bloke in moon boots, with snow on his moustache

and a cool head in emergencies. But I liked him, especially when he explained that survival depended on looking into the wilderness and not just at it. Incidentally, the way to extract drinking water from an Arctic landscape turned out to be quite complicated: lighting a little fire under special glacial ice, then filtering it through a descending series of pools. The natural instinct just to pack snow in your mouth and suck like crazy was so stupid, apparently, it didn't even rate a mention.



Lynne Truss

At midnight on Channel 4, a discussion programme called *For the Love of...* considered the startling proposition (first put forward in a movie called *Capricorn One*, surely) that the *Nasa Moon landings* in 1969 were faked up in telly studios. Six earnest people — a loose affiliation, at a guess — explained their suspicions of conspiracy to a

languid, mouse-haired young journalist called Jon Ronson, who lounged in an armchair and occasionally lit cigarettes. Ronson was so laid-back that at first the show threatened to be like a classic paranoid psychiatrist scenario, with the guests saying "Nobody listens to us!" and Ronson rubbing his eyes and saying "Huh?" But it turned out to be a fascinating hour of telly. Ronson allowed his guests to speak, and they warmed up. They showed the famous Moon-surface photos, of the astronauts and explained the impossible directional lighting, unobtainable on the Moon. Given enough rope, of course, all conspiracy theorists hang themselves, by claiming that the Government is sending messages to ET through *Noel's House Party* — and that if you count the spots on Mister Blobby, they spell "Xmas. John Lennon, let me out." Well, so it proved on *For the Love of...* But the photo evidence was still a valid puzzle. As Ronson put it: "This is all very persuasive, yet at the same time... difficult to take."

It's sad to think that rational thought is not natural to human beings; it has to be instilled by training (and generally isn't). Hearing these people argue that the script of *Independence Day* contains "messages" makes you wonder whether at least *The*

X-Files should be banned temporarily, to give the mind-trainers a rare clear run. Perhaps the most persuasive moment of the whole hour was when a guest defended his integrity by concluding "After all, we're not being paid for appearing here tonight." Well, that proves something doesn't it?

When I was a child, I seemed always to be writing the same 11-plus composition: a day in the life of a penny. It was a rotten thing to do to a kid. The penny would start off in someone's pocket and then fall down a drain, then pay for a broken biscuit. You see the problem? Whatever you did with this damn brown coin, you could never give it its destiny any kind of shape. Evidently Norman Hull had a similar education, because for his *Cutting Edge* last night (Channel 4), he chose a year in the life of a

- BBC1**
- 6.00am Business Breakfast (96729)
  - 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (94187)
  - 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (940419)
  - 9.20 Style Challenge (1134458)
  - 9.45 Kilroy (942922)
  - 10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (39187)
  - 11.00 News (T) and weather (978125)
  - 11.05 The Really Useful Show (3042274)
  - 11.35 Change That (565303)
  - 12.00 News (T) (970651)
  - 12.05pm The Alphabet Game (563019)
  - 12.30 Going for a Song (794754)
  - 12.55 The Weather Show (548180)
  - 1.00 One O'Clock News (T) and weather (97274)
  - 1.30 Regional News (969853)
  - 1.40 Newsnight (T) (2057274)
  - 2.05 Snowy River (832854)
  - 2.50 As Time Goes By (T) (547880)
  - 3.20 Noble Causes (106037)
  - 3.30 Playdays (136854) 3.50 Casper (291125) 3.55 Hubbub (718127) 4.10 The Phil Spector Story (946003) 4.35 The Mask (895462)
  - 5.00 Newsround (T) (774800)
  - 5.10 Grange Hill (1101274)
  - 5.35 Newsnight (T) (136903)
  - 6.00 Six O'Clock News (T) and weather (998)
  - 6.30 Regional News (330)
  - 7.00 Holiday India, a winter break in Portugal, a Jeep safari in southwest Turkey, and Bath (2922)
  - 7.30 EastEnders Tensions rise to boiling point behind the bar in the Vic (T) (813)
  - 8.00 Children's Hospital The staff treat a boy who fell from a first-floor window and a youngster who was knocked down by a car (1670)
  - 8.30 999 Lifelines (7477)
  - 9.00 Nine O'Clock News (T) and weather (3019)
  - 9.30 One Foot in the Grave Victor and Margaret invite Mrs Wetherby to stay at their house until her flooded flat dries out (77835) 10.00 One Foot in the Grave (54486) 10.30 Inside Story (228816) 11.00 FILM: Obsessed (395800) 12.30 FILM: Cop for the Killing (707830) 2.20 Weather (997074)
  - 10.00 Inside Story: Stories continue follow investigators as they follow up anonymous tip-offs (32458)
  - 10.50 Obsessed (1992) with Sherron Doherty and William Devane. Middle-aged divorcee William Devane begins a passionate affair with attractive 22-year-old girl but soon discovers an unhealthy side to her personality after ending their relationship. Directed by Jonathan Sanger (976570)
  - 12.20am Cop for the Killing (1990) Starring James Farentino, Charles Hall and Steven Weber. Fact-based thriller about a tight-knit squad of undercover narcotics agents torn apart after the murder of an officer in the line of duty. Directed by Dick Lowry (919452)
  - 1.50 Weather (2778201)

**VideoPlus and the Video Plus Codes**

The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video Plus Codes, which allow you to programme your video recorder to automatically record a programme. In the Video Plus Code for the programme you wish to record, VideoPlus (T) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

- BBC2**
- 6.00am Open University: Stens Cathedral (747510) 6.30 Art Attack (94187) (5347458) 7.15 News (T) (8424564) 7.30 Captain Caveman and the Teen Angels (1330468) 7.55 Blue Peter (T) (T) 8.20 Johnson and Friends (739818) 8.30 The Record (963363) 9.00 Standard Grade Modern Studies (942531) 9.20 The History Collection (1052800) 9.45 Watch (3780119) 10.00 Playdays (9377) 10.30 Come Outside (508057) 10.45 Science Zone (403458) 11.05 Space Ark (959090) 11.15 La Club 11.30 Shakespeare (T) (9554) 12.00 Sue Hill (T) 12.30 News Working Lunch (98411) 1.00 Teaching Today (95818) 1.30 Showcase (9688125) 1.40 Hotch Potch House (1072767) 2.00 Johnson and Friends (1072767) 2.10 Everyone's Got One 3.00 News (T) (1501403) 3.05 Westminster (228854) 3.55 News (T) (248038) 4.00 Today's the Day (903) 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (187) 5.00 Esther (7800)
  - 5.30 True Romance Living with a Down's syndrome child (31203)
  - 5.50 Lifetime (T) (975729) 6.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air (T) (152380)
  - 6.25 Heartbreak High (T) (189564)
  - 7.10 The O Zone (525632)
  - 7.25 Della's Red Nose Collection Jennifer Saunders helps to prepare Bloody Mary soup (T) (904125)
  - 7.30 The Numbers Game examines turbulence (818)
  - 8.00 Home Front (T) (9212)
  - 8.30 Food and Drink Michael Barry prepares an Indian lamb dish and Jilly Goodwin and Oz Clarke recommend Portuguese wine (T) (5019)
  - 9.00 Timewatch: Love Story Two German women, thrown together by the war, fall passionately in love. Lily Wust is married to a soldier, has four sons and a picture of Hitler on the wall, while Felice Schrengel is elegant, sophisticated — and Jewish (T) (563535)
  - 9.50 Della's Red Nose Collection (T) (958187)
  - 10.00 Have I Got Old News for You with Mark Little and Nigel Lawson (T) (52038)
  - 10.30 Newswatch with Kirsty Wark (T) (400583)
  - 11.15 Face to Face: Bob Monkhouse Sir Jerry Isaacs digs into the past of the veteran entertainer (75941)
  - 12.00 The Midpoints: Hour Political chat presented by Sir Bernard Ingham (88152)
  - 12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone: Open University. World, Brass and Baboon Bones (86713) 1.00 The Front Desk (47248) 1.30 The Census (86826) 2.00 Learnexpress (30607) 4.00 IT (83559) 5.00 Europe (40866) 5.30 Film Education: Harlem (80881)



Lily Wust remembers (9.00pm)

**CHOICE**

**Timewatch: Love Story** (BBC1, 9.00pm)

Lily was a 25-year-old mother of four, married to a Nazi when she fell in love with a Jew in wartime Berlin. Not only that, but the Jew was another woman. Doubly dangerous given the Hitler regime's attitude towards what it saw as sexual deviants, their affair is vividly reconstructed by one of our best contemporary film-makers, Celine Clair. She had a huge slice of luck. The film would probably not have been possible had not Lily, now in her eighties, been willing to face the cameras and speak frankly. But Clair has tracked down other first-hand witnesses, as well as surviving photographs and letters, and makes a genuine, if unlikely, love story. Lily does not regret the affair, though she must wish it had happened at a different time and place.

**Inside Story: To Catch a Cheat** (BBC1, 10.00pm Scotland, 10.30pm)

Since the Government set up the benefits hotline last year, 1,000 callers a day have been phoning in with information designed to nail the cheats. But if Ian Sturges' film is representative, many of these whistleblowers seem, maliciously or otherwise, to be on the wrong track. The cameras follow Benefits Agency investigators as they tackle the two most common sources of fraud. One is claiming benefit while working, the other is claiming as a single person while living with a partner. Sometimes the Agency detectives do hit the jackpot, though the miscreants are generally poor people looking for a bit of extra cash rather than the criminal class. But in other cases the evidence is far too slim to warrant action. Curiously, the £3 billion lost in fraud each year is outweighed by the amount of benefit which is not claimed.

**No Child of Mine** (ITV, 10.40pm)

You would not think so young dreadful things could happen to one young person. We first meet Kerry when she is 15. Her father sends her out to be a prostitute, her mother sexually abuses her, and her stepfather rapes her. Entering a children's home, she is pimped and raped all over again. It begins to sound like some ghastly parody of human perversion, except that it really happened. If Guy Hibbert's script about a real-life case is a case history rather than a drama, then case history is what it is. Criticism is reserved for the "system". The deeper question, of why five people should be engaged in violating one child, is never considered. Merely to raise it is probably disturbing enough. Kerry is played by Brooke Kinsella, an actress we shall surely hear of again.

**Face to Face** (BBC2, 11.15pm)

For somebody whose smile seems as permanent as his tan, Bob Monkhouse admits to more than his share of personal anguish. At times his chat with Sir Jerry Isaacs seems more like a confession than a chat. Take his parents. Dad was a "glum man, much given to parsimony". His mother found it impossible to show her affection and only hugged him twice in her life. So, Isaac, was that why from a small boy he wanted to hear laughter and be the cause of it? Good question. And there was Gary, Monkhouse's son who had cerebral palsy and died aged 40. How did that experience square with the all-smiling persona? The smile is temporarily veiled as Monkhouse tries to explain. In lighter vein we get the definitive explanation of that notorious tan.

**Granada 4000** (Granada, 10.00pm)

Marlin Clunes as the dishevelled groom (Movie Channel, 10.00pm)

Marlin Clunes: World Champion — 1.30 Krypton Factor (916880) 2.00 Bust (95919) 3.00 Unlucky, Downers (288330) 4.00 Doctor Series: In Charge (934312) 4.30 On the Busk (95340) 5.00 The Professionals (962177) 6.00 Classic Car Show (961131) 6.30 Families (953594) 7.00 Doctor Series: In Charge (934312) 7.30 On the Busk (95340) 8.00 Unlucky, Downers (288330) 8.30 Classic Car Show (961131) 9.00 Good Life Guide (943322) 10.00-11.00 The Professionals (962177) 11.00-12.00 Men and Motors (962200)

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- 6.00am GMTV (1048187)
  - 9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (1142477)
  - 9.55 Regional News (T) (5110941)
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  - 10.30 This Morning (T) (3339800)
  - 12.20pm Regional News (T) (6078855)
  - 12.30 News (T) and weather (792522)
  - 12.55 Shortland Street (T) (7940941)
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  - 3.25 Regional News (T) (8456534)
  - 3.30 Potamus Park (7185038) 3.40 Vizcaya (T) (9796800) 3.50 Bimble's Bucket (T) (988212) 4.00 Scooby Doo (1154090) 4.15 Hey Arnold (T) (9454477)
  - 4.40 Frighteners: The Promise The first of four tales of the supernatural. A kid has promised to meet Ruth at midnight at the tomb of a 17th-century witch but is confronted instead by a young rector. But who is he really? (T) (980767)
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  - 6.25 HTV Weather (826075)
  - 6.30 HTV News (458)
  - 7.00 Emmerdale Frank attempts to fend off the press (T) (7090)
  - 7.30 The Trouble with Kids A five-part series on parenting following the progress of a group of Bristol parents who are having problems managing their children (870)
  - 8.00 The Brit Awards 1997 hosted by Ben Elton. The winners of 15 awards will be announced and there will be live performances by British and international stars (T) (9200)
  - 10.00 News at Ten (T) and weather (40564)
  - 10.30 Regional News (T) (844551)



Brooke Kinsella as Kerry (10.40pm)

**No Child of Mine** (ITV, 10.40pm)

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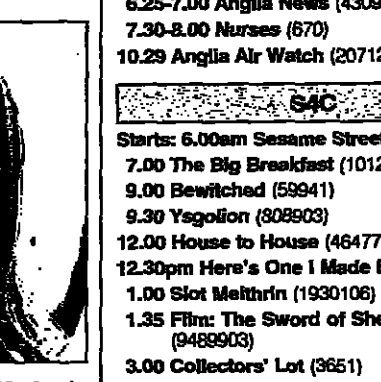
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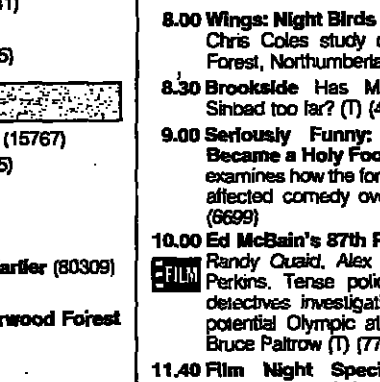
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**Granada 4000** (Granada, 10.00pm)

Marlin Clunes as the dishevelled groom (Movie Channel, 10.00pm)

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- HTV**
- 6.00am GMTV (1048187)
  - 9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (1142477)
  - 9.55 Regional News (T) (5110941)
  - 10.00 The Time, the Place (76238)
  - 10.30 This Morning (T) (3339800)
  - 12.20pm Regional News (T) (6078855)
  - 12.30 News (T) and weather (792522)
  - 12.55 Shortland Street (T) (7940941)
  - 1.25 Home and Away (T) (1567054)
  - 1.50 Afternoon Live (20562106)
  - 2.20 Vanessa: Wrongly Accused (T) (20461106)
  - 2.50 Afternoon Live (5478748)
  - 3.20 News (T) (7008093)
  - 3.25 Regional News (T) (8456534)
  - 3.30 Potamus Park (7185038) 3.40 Vizcaya (T) (9796800) 3.50 Bimble's Bucket (T) (988212) 4.00 Scooby Doo (1154090) 4.15 Hey Arnold (T) (9454477)
  - 4.40 Frighteners: The Promise The first of four tales of the supernatural. A kid has promised to meet Ruth at midnight at the tomb of a 17th-century witch but is confronted instead by a young rector. But who is he really? (T) (980767)
  - 5.10 Getaways (7428477)
  - 5.40 ITN News (T) and weather (305019)
  - 6.00 Home and Away (T) (156106)
  - 6.25 HTV Weather (826075)
  - 6.30 HTV News (458)
  - 7.00 Emmerdale Frank attempts to fend off the press (T) (7090)
  - 7.30 The Trouble with Kids A five-part series on parenting following the progress of a group of Bristol parents who are having problems managing their children (870)
  - 8.00 The Brit Awards 1997 hosted by Ben Elton. The winners of 15 awards will be announced and there will be live performances by British and international stars (T) (9200)
  - 10.00 News at Ten (T) and weather (40564)
  - 10.30 Regional News (T) (844551)



Brooke Kinsella as Kerry (10.40pm)

**No Child of Mine** (ITV, 10.40pm)

harrowing drama based on the shocking and moving true story of a child who was sexually abused by her father and her mother sexually abuses her, and her stepfather rapes her. Entering a children's home, she is pimped and raped all over again. It begins to sound like some ghastly parody of human perversion, except that it really happened. If Guy Hibbert's script about a real-life case is a case history rather than a drama, then case history is what it is. Criticism is reserved for the "system". The deeper question, of why five people should be engaged in violating one child, is never considered. Merely to raise it is probably disturbing enough. Kerry is played by Brooke Kinsella, an actress we shall surely hear of again.

**Face to Face** (BBC2, 11.15pm)

For somebody whose smile seems as permanent as his tan, Bob Monkhouse admits to more than his share of personal anguish. At times his chat with Sir Jerry Isaacs seems more like a confession than a chat. Take his parents. Dad was a "glum man, much given to parsimony". His mother found it impossible to show her affection and only hugged him twice in her life. So, Isaac, was that why from a small boy he wanted to hear laughter and be the cause of it? Good question. And there was Gary, Monkhouse's son who had cerebral palsy and died aged 40. How did that experience square with the all-smiling persona? The smile is temporarily veiled as Monkhouse tries to explain. In lighter vein we get the definitive explanation of that notorious tan.

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